FRIDAY
April 21, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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GUJARAT RIOTS

67 accused in Naroda killings case acquitted

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'Faith in children's vaccines up'

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ONE STEP FORWARD

Bilawal Bhutto to be in India for SCO meet

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PARLEY

Is Mandal politics salient electorally now?

Looking back amid caste census demand

OPINION » PAGE 9

RED HOT

Siraj complements RCB's good batting

SPORT » PAGE 15

II PU results to be announced today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) will announce the II PU results on Friday at 10 a.m.

The results will be available on the website https://karresults.nic.in at 11 a.m. and simultaneously, the board will send the results to the students' registered mobile numbers through SMS.

7.27 lakh students

The KSEAB conducted the II PU examination for the first time this year, from March 9 to 29 across the State, and around 7.27 lakh students had appeared for it.

Evaluation was done from April 4 at 65 centres and the board had deputed around 25,000 evaluators. As many as 45 lakh answer papers of 37 subjects were evaluated.

Surat court rejects Rahul's plea for stay on conviction

Court rejects his contention that the trial was unfair; says complainant is an ex-Minister involved in public life and thus, the defamatory remarks would have certainly harmed his reputation

Mahesh Langa
AHMEDABAD

In a major setback to former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, a Surat sessions court on Thursday dismissed his plea seeking an interim stay on his conviction in a defamation case in which he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, leading to his disqualification from the Lok Sabha.

The verdict means that he cannot be immediately reinstated as an MP. In his plea, Mr. Gandhi had sought a stay on his conviction, contending that the magisterial court had treated him harshly and that the trial was unfair.

Last month, a magisterial court in Surat convicted and sentenced Mr. Gandhi to two years in jail for his 2019 remark, "How come all the thieves have Modi as their common surname?" The court had found Mr. Gandhi guilty of criminal defamation on a plea filed by BJP legislator Purnesh Modi.

In a 27-page order on Thursday, Additional Sessions Judge Robin Mogera rejected the argument that Mr. Modi's complaint was not maintainable. "Rahul Gandhi failed to demonstrate that by not staying the conviction and denying an opportunity to contest the election, an irreversible and irrevocable damage will be caused to him," the court noted. The judge held that the complainant Mr. Modi is a former Minister and involved in public life and thus, the defamatory remarks would have certainly harmed his reputation and caused him pain and agony in society.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

No relief: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi interacting with students on the North Campus of Delhi University on Thursday. PTI

Congress to file appeal in High Court

NEW DELHI
The Congress will file an appeal in the High Court against the sessions court's judgment rejecting Rahul Gandhi's application for a stay on his conviction, said party spokesperson and Supreme Court lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi. » PAGE 11

Five soldiers killed as terrorists attack Army truck in Poonch

An Army vehicle in flames after the terror attack at Mendhar in Poonch district of Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
JAMMU

Five soldiers were killed and another injured in a major militant attack in Poonch district of the Pir Panjal Valley in Jammu on Thursday.

Militants opened fire and launched grenades at an Army vehicle around 3 p.m. during a patrol. "Five personnel of the Rashtriya Rifles unit deployed for counter-terrorist operations have unfortunately lost their lives in the incident," a Jammu-based Army spokesman said.

One Army vehicle, moving between Bhimber Gali and Poonch in the Rajauri Sector, was fired upon by unidentified terrorists, taking advantage of heavy rain and low visibility, the Army said. "The vehicle caught fire, due to likely use of grenades by terrorists," the Army added.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

NEARBY

D.K. Suresh files papers from Kanakapura

BENGALURU
As a precautionary move, since KPCC president D.K.Shivakumar has 19 cases pending against him (though with no convictions), his brother and Congress MP from Bengaluru Rural, D.K. Suresh, filed his nomination for the Assembly elections from Kanakapura. » Page 4

3,632 candidates file nominations

BENGALURU
A total of 3,632 candidates filed nominations for the May 10 Assembly elections, as per data till Thursday, the last day for filing nominations. » Page 2

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of new LPG connections in the last nine years

17 In crore. The cooking gas consumer base in India doubled to 31.26 crore during this period, according to official data. LPG coverage increased from 62% in 2016 to 104.1% in 2022. However, due to high LPG prices in recent years, usage of LPG has reduced. PTI

India pulls back on zero-dose children, says UNICEF

2.7 Million. Zero-dose children are those who have not received a single routine vaccine. The unvaccinated population can pose a risk in the future because of their lower immunity levels, according to a UNICEF report. PTI

The number of children in Africa who missed vaccinations

12.7 Nearly 13 million children missed one or more vaccinations in Africa between 2019 and 2021 because of the pandemic, leaving the continent vulnerable to even more outbreaks of disease, a new report from UNICEF said. AP

A drop in U.S. space industry funding in the first quarter

53 In percentage. Investments in the space industry dropped to $2.2 billion, in the three months ending March, with high interest rates and challenging market conditions making it the quarter with lowest funding the sector has seen since 2015. REUTERS

The people killed at a Ramadan cash handout in Yemen

85 fatalities. Hundreds were injured in the cash handout, after large crowds gathered at a school to receive gifts of 5,000 rials for the end of Ramadan. The country thus suffers yet another tragedy. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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India's fighter jet conundrum

The Indian Air Force is trying to keep up its strength of fighter squadrons as its fleet struggles with the gradual phase-out of existing jets as well as delays in the order and procurement of new jets. It is also placing much hope in indigenously manufactured aircraft

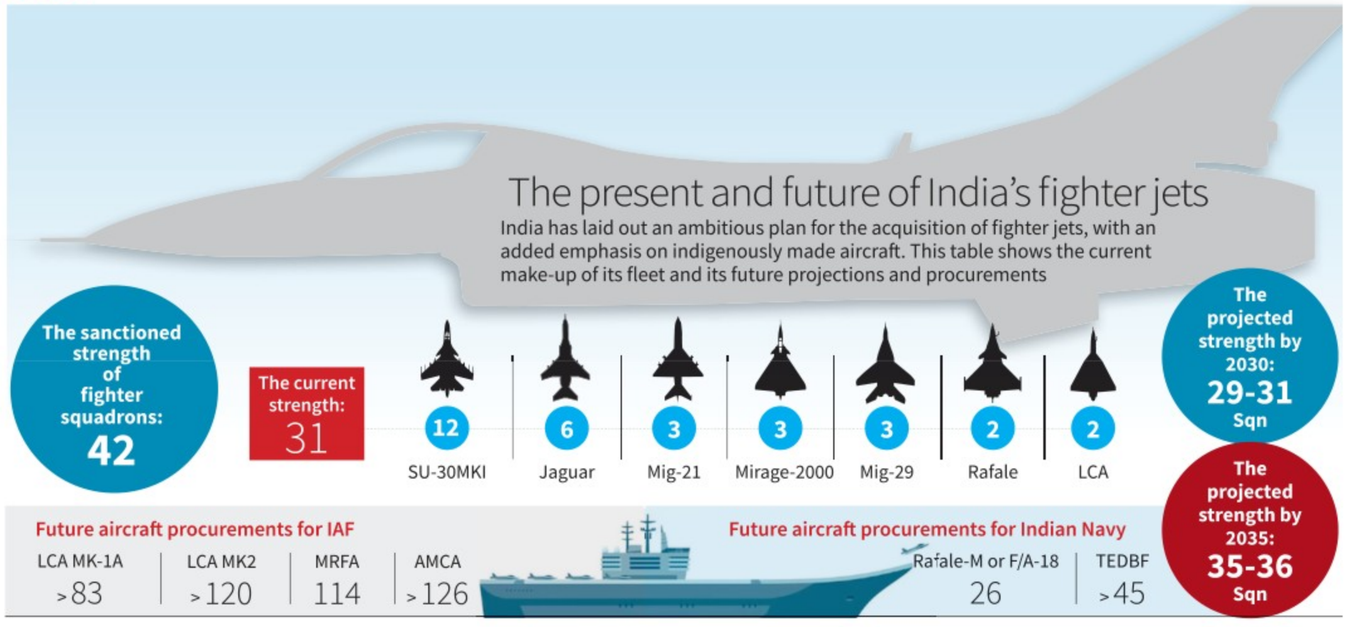
FULL CONTEXT

Dinakar Peri

Against the sanctioned strength of 42 fighter squadrons, we are today at 31 squadrons which won't go up in the next decade, but on the contrary can go further down by 2029, an Indian Air Force (IAF) representative informed the Parliamentary standing committee on defence as per a report tabled in Parliament last month. This sums up the conundrum faced by one of the world's largest Air Forces in modernising its fleet which has been beset with unending delays in procurement.

"As far as going from 31 to 42 squadrons, I will not be able to say by when it can be accomplished", the representative added noting that they have been trying for the past many years to move forward, but there are certain procedures that have to be followed. If what has been ordered is delivered, and the case for 114 Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) has progressed, then by 2030 we can be between 29 to 31 squadrons, the IAF rep said assuring that it will not go below that. The bulk of the heft to arrest the drawdown and ensure it doesn't fall below 29 squadrons rests on the 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)– MK1A, LCA-MK2 and MRFA. The decision on MRFA is essential to arrest this drawdown, the House Panel was informed.

Fly high: The Indian Air Force light combat aircraft Tejas getting ready for take off in Bengaluru in 2021. FILE PHOTO



"If we keep buying them from the open market in the world, we will never become self-reliant. We need to give a push to our own industry also"

Phase-outs and orders

It must be noted that of the 31 squadrons at present, the three Mig-21 squadrons will be phased by 2025. Also, the Jaguars, Mirage-2000s and Mig-29s will begin going out by the end of the decade. For instance, by 2027-28 the first of the MIG-29s, inducted in the late 1980s, will start going out and by early 2040s, when most of these types will be phased out, some of the earlier batch of SU-30s will also start going out.

The IAF has in total contracted 272 SU-30s. A deal to procure 12 additional SU-30MKIs to replace the ones lost in accidents as well 21 additional MIG-29s from Russia has been stuck, though both IAF and Russian officials state that it has only been delayed but is on track.

India has an ambitious plan lined up for the acquisition of over 500 fighter jets, a bulk of them to be indigenously designed and manufactured, with a majority of them being for the IAF. However, these are at various stages of development. Their manufacturing and timely deliveries are critical.

Speaking at an event in October 2022, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal V. R. Chaudhari conceded that even with the LCA-Mk1A, LCA-Mk2 and the MRFA "we will still be at 35-36 (squadrons) by middle of next decade."

Apart from the new inductions planned, the IAF is confident that increasing the low availability rates of Su-30 and other fighters in service will offset some of the shortfall in the interim. However, that could be potentially impacted due to the Ukraine war, which has already affected payments to Russia for deals underway as well as delays and uncertainty in timely supply of spares for equipment in service.

Indigenous fighter ecosystem

The LCA which is the fulcrum of the indigenous jet development programme, originally intended as a Mig-21 replacement, has seen a series of delays and has now come back on track. The LCA achieved Initial Operation Clearance (IOC) in December 2013 and Final Operational Clearance (FOC) in February 2019. The IAF had earlier signed two contracts with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), for 20 IOC configuration aircraft including four IOC trainers on March 31, 2006 and for 20 FOC configuration jets along with four trainers on December 23, 2010. On this, the IAF representative noted that they were supposed to get the 40 LCA from HAL much earlier but they are getting them now. Even now, we are two aircraft short of 40, the representative noted.

Two decades since the first flight, in February 2020, the Defence Ministry signed a ₹48,000 crore deal with HAL for 83 LCA-MK1A. The HAL officials said the project is on track to begin deliveries from February 2024. HAL will be delivering the first three aircraft in 2024 and 16 aircraft per year for the subsequent five years, the Defence Ministry has said. Last month, HAL inaugurated the third LCA assembly line, with the need now being to ramp up production rate.

In addition to the LCA-MK1A, an even more capable and a larger LCA-MK2, which received sanction from the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in September 2022 at a total cost of ₹9000 crore, is expected to be ready for production by 2027. Moreover, the fifth generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) is awaiting CCS sanction, the development of which would take 10 years after that, according to Dr. Girish S. Deodhare, Director General of Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA). The project cost of AMCA is estimated to be around ₹15,000 crore.

The LCA-MK2 will be similar to the Mirage-2000 in terms of capability and will be an important fillip as several jets currently in service begin going out. There is also a Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter (TEDBF) on the drawing board for the Navy's aircraft carriers. Dr. Deodhare had said that they are looking at six squadrons of LCA-Mk2, seven squadrons of AMCA and upto 100 TEDBF. At Aero India, HAL officials said that they expect an additional order for upto 50 LCA-Mk1A. A squadron typically has 18 aircraft. The TEDBF is expected to take first flight by 2026 and be ready for production by 2031. Speaking on the sidelines of Aero India, Navy Chief Adm R. Hari Kumar said that they may get upto 45 TEDBF by 2040. For the Navy, a decision for 26 carrier based fighters is expected shortly, a contest between Boeing F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet and the Dassault Aviation Rafale-M.

The other critical programme, the MRFA, is a reincarnation of the earlier Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) contest for 126 jets. The MMRCA began when the Request for Information (RFI) was issued in 2007 and dragged on for a decade only to end up in knots and give way to the emergency procurement of 36 Rafale jets, earlier shortlisted under the MMRCA, under a €7.87 billion deal with France. The RFI for 114 MRFA was issued in April 2019 to global aircraft manufacturers but there has been no progress and the project is yet to receive the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), the starting point of the procurement process. Given the huge budgetary outlays committed for the indigenous programmes, it has to be seen how the finances for the MRFA, which involves the manufacturer to set up plant in India, would be managed.

Evolution of the LCA

While the LCA project did see long delays, it has also evolved in tune with the changing technological requirements. It was conceived in the 90s', but what the IAF is flying today is very different from what was actually conceived at that point of time. According to the IAF, what was envisioned in the beginning and what we are flying today are two different architectures. "The one we are flying today is called federated architecture. If I can use the word, it is, plug and fly. You can integrate any new weapon or any new system much easily now", the IAF rep said. Further, the House panel was informed that as far as avionics, airframe and other parts are concerned, we are very close to where the world is, except for some technologies like actuators, which are undergoing flight testing at the moment, according to the IAF. Also, critical technologies like flyby wire are not shared by anyone and were developed indigenously over time.

Stressing on indigenisation, the Air Force submitted before the standing committee, "If we keep buying them from the open market in the world, we will never become self-reliant. So, we need to give a push to our own industry also. We need to hold their hands and Air Force is committed towards that."

THE GIST

- Against the sanctioned strength of 42 fighter squadrons, the IAF today is at 31 squadrons. The bulk of the heft to arrest the drawdown and ensure that the number doesn't fall below 29 squadrons rests on the 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)— MK1A, LCA-MK2 and MRFA.
- India has an ambitious plan lined up for the acquisition of over 500 fighter jets, a bulk of them to be indigenously designed and manufactured, with a majority of them being for the IAF. However, these are at various stages of development and procurement.
- The LCA which is the fulcrum of the indigenous jet development programme, originally intended as a Mig-21 replacement, has seen a series of delays and has now come back on track.

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3,632 candidates file nominations for polls

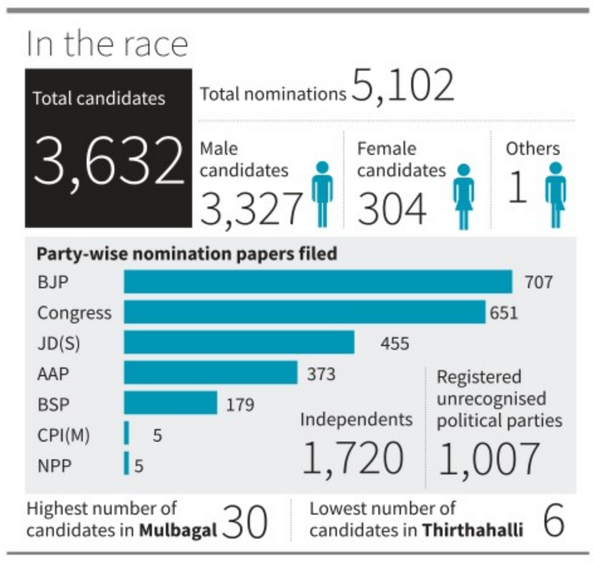
With candidates allowed to file up to four nominations each, a total of 5,102 papers were filed by the 3,632 candidates; 30 candidates filed nominations in Mulbagal, the highest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A total of 3,632 candidates filed nominations for the May 10 Karnataka Assembly elections, as per data from the Election Commission till Thursday, the last day for filing nominations.

With candidates allowed to file up to four nominations, a total of 5,102 papers were filed by the 3,632 candidates. Of the total candidates. 304 are women and one from "others" category.

BJP workers taking part in a roadshow in support of party candidate for Hebbal constituency Katta Jagadish before he filed his nomination papers in Bengaluru on Thursday. PTI



Party-wise break up

There were 707 nominations from the BJP, 651 from the Congress, 455 from the JD(S), 373 from the Aam Aadmi Party, 179 from BSP, five each from CPI(M) and NPP. There were 1,007 nominations by registered unrecognised parties and 1,720 by Independents.

Congress MP D.K. Suresh, KPCC working president Satish Jarkhiholi, former BJP MLC Ayanur Manjunath, who jumped ship to the JD(S), Congress MLA Krishna Byre Gowda and former JD(S) MLA S.R. Srinivas were among the 1,691 candidates who filed their nominations on the last day. These include 146 women candidates.

Highest and lowest

Thirty candidates filed nominations from Mulbagal, the highest. This constituency is followed by Jewargi, Ballari City and Chitradurga where 29 candidates have filed nominations.

The least number of nominations were filed from Thirthahalli where only six candidates have submitted their papers.

The term of the current Assembly ends on May 24. Of the 224 Assembly constituencies, 36 are reserved for the SCs and 15 for the STs.

The notification for the elections was issued on April 13 and April 20 (Thursday) was the last date for filing nominations. The scrutiny of the nominations will be done on April 21 and the last day for withdrawal is April 24.

Surprise move

Among those who filed their nominations, in a surprise move, D.K. Suresh, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president D.K. Shivakumar's brother filed his nomination from the same seat three days after Mr. Shivakumar did. Mr. Ayanur Manjunath is contesting the polls from Shivamogga seat as a JD(S) candidate, after the BJP denied him ticket.

The constituency is currently held by BJP MLA K.S. Eshwarappa, who announced his retirement from electoral politics just before the BJP's first list was released.

Flyovers are opposed by citizens but championed by political parties

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Over 5,000 people formed a human chain to protest the proposed steel flyover on Ballari Road in October 2016. FILE PHOTO

ELECTIONS 2023: FOCUS BENGALURU

It was October 2016 when over 5,000 people formed a human chain to protest the proposed steel flyover on Ballari Road and scored a victory with some aid from the National Green Tribunal. Since then, almost every proposal to build a flyover in the city has met with varying degrees of resistance from civic groups, the latest being against the widening and flyover on Sankey Tank Bund Road.

Though flyovers remain one of the most successful rallying points for civic protests in the city over the last decade, there seems to be no end in sight to more flyovers in the city. The incumbent BJP government has taken up the constructions of 11 flyovers and 4 underpasses in the city over the last two years, which will take the total number of flyovers to 46 and underpasses to 32. In a clear dissonance with what seems to be popular sentiment, Mr. Bommai boasted that his government was building 11 flyovers this year, the highest in a single year by any government.

But the BJP is not alone. There seems to be a consensus cutting across party lines on flyovers as the best fix for the city's traffic mess, despite contrary advice by experts and protests by citizens.

Congress mooted the steel flyover and a network of elevated corridors in the 2015-18 period, drawing the ire of citizens. The BJP and JD(S), then in Opposition, supported citizens' protests.

However, H.D. Kumaraswamy and later the BJP government tried to revive the elevated corridor project which they had opposed while in Opposition, again facing stiff resistance. The BJP government also faced resistance over the Shivananda Circle flyover and Sankey Tank Bund Road flyover, but has still taken up 11 more flyovers in just one year.

"When we speak to political parties and leaders, they seem to get the argument that flyovers and more infrastructure for private vehicles will only increase traffic. However, when they come to power, they invariably build more flyovers, prioritise metro over suburban rail or bus lanes. After all these years of experience, we have now come to the conclusion that land acquisition, land use change, concrete and construction are essential parts of our political economy which nobody in power will let go," said Tara Krishnaswamy, who was one of the prominent faces of #SteelFlyoverBeda protests.

Given such consensus among all the three major political parties, voters have no real choice to make based on the issue. "We need to engage with the government of the day, whichever it is, on a project to project basis. There are so many checks and balances in the law that we need to make use of and force the government to hold public consultations. We need to ensure the BMLTA is properly constituted and that may be the way ahead," said Preeti Sunderajan from Save Sankey, a group protesting the proposed road widening and flyover on the tank-bund road.

The #SteelFlyoverBeda protests of 2016 evolved into #BusBhagyaBeku and #ChukubukuBeku protests essentially demanding for better public transport. However, that has not gained traction with the political establishment of the city.

A city MLA argued that the vocal citizens protesting flyovers were mostly elites and there was no groundswell against flyovers. "Most of those protesting infrastructure for private vehicles, also argue to tweak the entire city to discourage private transport and encourage public transport. This will sort of put a ceiling on people buying cars. In an aspirational society like ours, that is also not fair," he said.

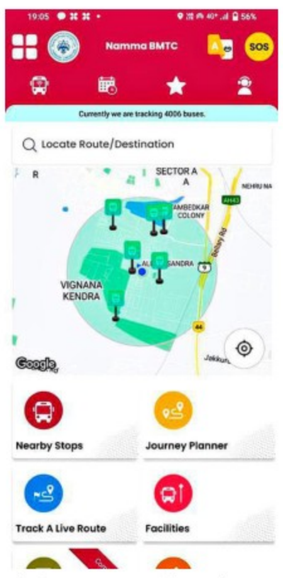
(In this series, we look at the major infrastructural issues affecting the city and how recent governments have dealt with them.)

Citizens can now use 'Namma BMTC' app for real-time information of bus services

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

City bus passengers are finally in a position to use a mobile app to track buses on a real-time basis and plan their trip. The app "Namma BMTC" is available for download for Android and iOS users. The officials of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) claim that 4,000 plus buses are being tracked to provide real-time information for the city bus travellers.

The BMTC took years to introduce the app and missed several deadlines in the past. The app was made available for public use on Wednesday night. Initially, the BMTC had named the app as "Nimmbus" (meaning 'Your Bus' in Kannada) and later changed to "Namma BMTC" (meaning Our BMTC). Two language options Kannada and English have been provided to use the app.



The 'Namma BMTC' app is available for download.

App benefits

The app provides many benefits for the users: it helps them to spot nearby stops, plan journeys by providing origin and destination points, tracking a live route, facilities available at bus stations and TTMCs and others. In the time of emergency, the passengers can also press the SoS button provided on the top of the app. There is an option to contact the call centre of the corporation. The side menu can be accessed to share location using various social media options, to give feedback and access websites of BMTC and KSRTC. The fare calculator will be enabled shortly. Passengers can purchase BMTC bus passes by clicking on the "My ticket/passes" option. The option links the passenger to use the Tummoc platform to purchase various passes. Sources said that purchase of tickets and passes directly using the app will be enabled as early as possible.

An official of the BMTC said, "We have not launched the app. It is still under testing. However, the public can make use of the app to make their travel more convenient. Major benefit of the app is providing real-time information on bus services which passengers are eagerly looking for. Arrival of bus at bus stop, tracking the route and others make travelling convenient will help the passengers in a big way. As of now 4,000 plus buses are tracked on a real-time basis. The accuracy of information accessed by the passengers is more than 95%. The BMTC has already installed tracking devices in the close to 6,000 buses. Buses that are off road or sent to workshops for parking are not tracked. In a phased manner, we will take measures to track more buses."

The BMTC has a fleet size of 6,700 odd buses and close to 30 lakh passengers rely on their services.

IDBI BANK

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As per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines dated January 23, 2023 on 'Safe Deposit Locker/ Safe Custody Article Facility provided by the Banks – Revised instructions', a New Locker Agreement is required to be executed by all the Safe Deposit Locker (SDL) holders of the Banks.
Accordingly, IDBI Bank Limited, requests all its esteemed Locker customers as under;
1) Locker holders who have already executed the 'New Model Locker Agreement' after April, 2022 are required to execute a 'Supplementary Safe Deposit Locker Agreement'. Hence, kindly revisit nearby IDBI Bank branch along with joint holder/s, if any, with latest KYC documents. Cost of the Stamp Paper for executing 'Supplementary Agreement' will be borne by the Bank.
2) Locker holders who have not executed the 'New Model Locker Agreement' after April, 2022, are required to execute the 'Revised Model Safe Deposit Locker Agreement'. Hence, kindly visit your nearby IDBI Bank branch along with the joint holder/s, if any, and 2 recent passport size photographs, at the earliest.
Our branches will provide necessary support including supply of the Stamp Paper (will be charged as per the applicability) for smooth completion of the process.
We solicit kind cooperation from all our customers to help the Bank comply with the RBI guidelines.
Date: 20.04.2023
Place: Bangalore **- IDBI Bank Ltd.**

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Our client intends to purchase the immovable Property which is more fully described in the schedule here in below for valuable consideration from its original owner **M. Murugappan,** that if any person has any right title or right to claim over the schedule property they may come forward with the original documents and provide the manner of right, title in writing with the under sign, within **15 days** from today, on failure of any such objection/claim being received our client shall proceed with intended sale transaction and shall be deemed that no one has any right to claim over the schedule property right that may exist is waived off.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of **House Property Bearing No.27/2, [Old No.27], Ayyappa Nilayam, 7th 'A' Cross, 3rd Block, Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore 28,** now comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No. 154, Basavanagudi, PID No. 51-37-27/2, measuring East to West: 25 Feet and North to South: 33 Feet, **totally measuring 825 Sq. Ft.,** together with consisting of GF, FF & SF 1400 Square Feet building.

GP Rao and Associates
#76, Murthy Building, 3rd Floor,
D.V.G Road, Nettakallappa Circle,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004
Tel-26621124 / 9343323453
Date : 20-04-2023 **Place :** Bangalore.

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SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of residential building **No. 63,** formed in converted Sy. No. 28/7, [duly converted by Non-agricultural residential purpose vide Order No. BD/ALN/SR(S)227/97-98, dated 14-05-1998 issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District] CMC Katha No.192, Property No. 28/7/63, situated at **Kodichikkanahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** measuring East to West: 30-0 Feet, and North to South: 40-0 Feet **totally measuring 1200 Sq. Ft.**

GP Rao and Associates
#76, Murthy Building, 3rd Floor,
D.V.G Road, Nettakallappa Circle,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004
Tel-26621124 / 9343323453
Date : 20-04-2023 **Place :** Bangalore.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

A Zestful Man with Honour & Integrity and Great Smile

T K CHELLAPPA

BORN : 23-10-1930
DEATH :19-04-2023

THIRUMALAI KUMARA VEERARAGHAVA THATHACHARY
alias T K CHELLAPPA

Pradhama Acharya Purusha TTD Devasthanam; Former Sr. Audit Officer, Bangalore and Madras, attained Acharyan Thiruvadi on 19.04.2023.

Last Rites on Friday 21.04.2023 at Mahashanthi 11.00 a.m., Coimbatore.

Deeply Mourned by
Wife
TK Lalitha
Son & Daughters
TK Sridhar & Anitha
TK Jayashree & R Sridharan
TK Revathy & PS Raghunathan
Brothers
TK Srinivasan & Malathy
TK Raghu & Vaidhehi
Grand Children,
Great Grand Children.

9843325555

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

HOMAGE TO OUR FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR

Sri. RM. ARUNACHALAM

TWENTY SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

Born : 18-07-1947 Expired : 21-04-1996

Former Managing Director:
Sree Visalam Chit Fund Ltd.,

IN MEMORIAM

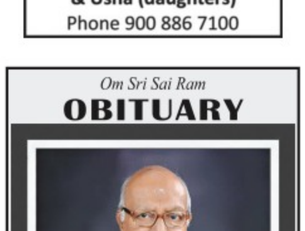
"To one of the best people who ever lived
We all miss and love very much
You are always in our hearts"

With Fond Remembrance
AR. Viswanathan, Managing Director
AR. Meenakshi, Director
AR. Umapathy, Director

Family Members, Relatives, Friends
and
Employees of Sree Visalam Chit Fund Ltd.

DEATH

With profound grief & sadness we inform the Demise



Vanaja Gopalan, 80

W/o.Late V.V Gopalan
(Railways, Hyderabad)
on April, 19, 2023, in Bangalore
Deeply Mourned by
V Sridhar (son), Gayathri & Usha (daughters)
Phone 900 886 7100

Om Sri Sai Ram

OBITUARY

K.V. Natarajan I.A.S (Retd.)
November 30 1933 to April 11 2023

Our beloved father left us on April 11th, leaving behind a lasting legacy as a dedicated civil servant, a committed social worker and a loving family man.

Please join us to celebrate his life on Sunday, 23rd April '23, 11 a.m. onwards

Venue: Community hall, Sector A, Pockets B&C, Vasantkunj, New Delhi, 110070

With love & respect
Padma Krishnakumar, Uma Sridhar, Saipriya Natarajan & Family

Businessman booked for forging registration number plate of car

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Subramanyapura police have booked a city-based businessman for forging the number plate of a car to hoodwink the traffic police after involving in repeated violations.

The scam came to light when the accused misused the FASTag while crossing a toll gate and the amount got deducted from the genuine car owner.

Worried about the repeated notices and toll fee, the car owner Lakshmipataiah H.K., 65, from Chikkalasandra approached the traffic police. Based on his complaint, the police assigned police constable Manjunath from KC Layout traffic police station to probe the matter.

With the help of the crime and criminal tracking network and system, Mr. Manjunath tracked down the vehicle and its address to Swaminathan Kalimuthu, 55, from Chikkamavalli who had a white colour car with the same make and the number plate belonging to Dr. Lakshmipataiah.

Swaminathan owned a tyre shop. Mr. Manjunath visited the address and seized the vehicle and summoned Swaminathan, but he managed to escape. The accused has managed to obtain conditional bail to appear before the police whenever they summon him for investigation.

THE HINDU
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Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, APR. 21		
RISE	06:04	SET 18:33
RISE	06:46	SET 19:44
SATURDAY, APR. 22		
RISE	06:04	SET 18:33
RISE	07:31	SET 20:40
SUNDAY, APR. 23		
RISE	06:03	SET 18:33
RISE	08:19	SET 21:37

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	25
Mysuru	36	24
Bengaluru	36	22

Bengaluru Today
36°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be very warm and uneasy. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
36°C A dry weather to continue. Morning will be pleasant with mist & haze. Day will be very warm and uneasy. Night also will be pleasant.

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IN THE LIMELIGHT

AFP

From page to screen: should films based on books stay faithful to their source?

Whether it is *Ponniyin Selvan* in Tamil or the *Harry Potter* series in English, adapting books into movies has always been tricky. Filmmakers may want to put their own stamp on the story, and this can mean making changes to the book

Praveen Sudevan

People across age groups watched the blockbuster that was *Ponniyin Selvan: I*. A big chunk of this also included the book fans, who, we can safely assume (going by the box-office numbers), were satisfied with Mani Ratnam's screen translation of Kalki's work.

A few of them, however, accused Ratnam of altering the essence of the books. The characters, they said, were robbed of their nuances. The following were some of the common gripes – Aditha Karikalan comes across as a jilted lover in the film, whereas in the books, he is a different character altogether; Alwarkadiyan, a super spy in the books, was reduced to being just comic relief; Aniruddha Brahmarayar, a central character in the story, was barely present in the film; and Poonkuzhali, depicted as a fierce tigress in the books, appeared tame on-screen.

Adapting a book, especially a famous one, into a film has always been tricky. The *Harry Potter* film franchise, despite earning $7.7 billion at the box office, also received criticism from some fans for not remaining faithful to the source material and leaving out several important/favourite scenes, as well as curtailing character development due to the lack of screen-time.

For example, several fans especially took exception to how Lord Voldemort's iconic death scene from the books played out on-screen: "In the books, he dies a very normal, human death. The whole point was that this mighty, megalomaniac wizard just died mortally. But in the film, he just evaporates into the air like it's some dandruff shampoo ad!"

Now, taking this into account, HBO Max is developing a live-action series based on author J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* books. The upcoming project will feature a new cast, and each season will be devoted to one of Rowling's books. The plan is for the show to unfold over 10 years.

Different mediums

It can be argued that films should stay true to the books as much as possible. After all, fans of the book are likely to be the main audience for the film adaptation, and they have certain expectations about how the story and characters should be portrayed on screen. Deviating too far from the source material can lead to backlash from fans.

But books and films are two distinct mediums of storytelling, each with its own set of strengths and limitations. What works on the page may not necessarily work on screen. Books allow for more introspection and internal monologues from characters, which can be tough to translate to the visual medium of film. Therefore, changes to the story or characters may be necessary to make the story more cinematic and engaging.

Additionally, films often have to contend with practical constraints such as budget, casting, and runtime. While an author can have infinite characters and locations, a filmmaker must often make difficult choices about what to include and what to leave out. This can mean combining characters or eliminating subplots, which may deviate from the book but is necessary for the film to work as a standalone piece.

Recreating for the screen

Filmmaker Vetri Maaran, who has adapted three novels on screen, understands the complexities of the book-to-screen translation very well. "When you take content that exists in a different medium and try to make it into a film, we should first understand, accept, and acknowledge that none of that medium's aesthetics or finesse is going to be useful for your films," he says in an interview with *Film Companion*, "You first try to understand the story, the character, and the plot and then you try to rewrite it."

"When you try to recreate the situation in the novel into a screenplay, a lot of things will have to be omitted... Sometimes, what is left unsaid in the novel, might have to be pointed out in cinema; and what is specified in the novel can be left unsaid in the film."

Filmmakers may also want to put their own stamp on the story, and this can mean making changes to the book. While this can be risky, as it can alienate fans of the book, it can also lead to a fresh and exciting take on the story. For instance, David Fincher, while making *Gone Girl* (which is based on Gillian Flynn's novel of the same name), made significant changes to the ending of the book which arguably allowed for a more satisfying conclusion to the story.

To ensure the film doesn't lose the book's essence, its makers can involve the author in the project. Gillian, for instance, wrote for the film version of *Gone Girl*. Filmmakers, especially while adapting a saga, can also consider making it a series than a film... if they have the budget for it. In *Ponniyin Selvan*'s case, Mani Ratnam had the budget only for a two-part film, and Harry Potter is now getting a longer, more detailed adaptation.

Ultimately, the success of a film adaptation depends on the quality of the film itself, rather than its faithfulness to the source material.

As Vetri Maaran observes, "A popular fiction novel like *The Godfather* can become a classic film while a classic novel like *A Tale of Two Cities* can turn out to be a mediocre film."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Prince constantly pushed the boundaries of fashion, music and pop culture during his career. He passed away on April 21, 2016. Here is a quiz on the singing sensation

Abhinaya. K

QUESTION 1
The legendary singer wrote and produced the album for a superhero movie. He later revealed that he was supposed to collaborate with Michael Jackson on one of the songs on the album. Name the superhero movie and its director.

QUESTION 2
In an iconic straight-out-of-the-movies moment, Prince performed his hit song 'Purple Rain' during a torrential Miami downpour at the Super Bowl's halftime show. His set list also included covers of other artists, including the rock band Queen. Which Queen song did he sing, and in which year did he perform at the Super Bowl?

QUESTION 3
Prince won the Golden Globe award for Best Song in a Motion Picture for his song 'When Doves Cry'. Is the statement true or false?

QUESTION 4
What was the name of the character Prince played in the movie *Purple Rain*, that was also a fictional version of himself?

QUESTION 5
The singer was a fan of this show, and its storyline was altered for Prince's cameo. The episode features a hilarious makeover montage for the lead character, played by Zooey Deschanel, with Prince and the duo singing 'Fallinlove2nite'. Name the show.

Visual question:
This custom purple colour, synonymous with the legendary singer, was named after him. Name the colour. AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Knabenphysik is German for this word. **Ans: Boys' physics**
2. The only woman at the famous 1927 Solvay Conference. **Ans: Marie Curie**
3. This person found that any system will exclude an electron if it has another electron with the same four quantum numbers. **Ans: Wolfgang Pauli (Pauli's exclusion principle)**
4. This scientist was persecuted by an anti-Semitic physics movement in the 1930s and was part of the Nazi nuclear research programme. **Ans: Werner Heisenberg**
5. The Indian who created the rules for particles that ignore the Pauli's exclusion principle. **Ans: Satyendra Nath Bose**
Visual: The scientist who figured out nuclear fission and had an element named for her. **Ans: Lise Meitner**
Early Birds: P. N. Moorthy| Shubhkaramdeep Singh| Sunil Kannada| Ranilakshmi M. S.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Mr. Ameet Hingaroni, 42, Alagesan Main Road, Saibaba Colony, Coimbatore, wants to know the meaning of 'alma mater'."

" 'alma mater' is a Latin term meaning 'Bounteous Mother'. Your school or college is your alma mater. It is used of 'universities and schools by their past and present pupils'. A school or a college feeds you with knowledge. Hence the term 'alma mater'. The first 'a' in 'alma' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'bat' and the second 'a' like the 'a' in China. The 'a' in 'mater' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'part'; some pronounce it like the 'a' in 'fate', 'date'. Both are acceptable. The 'e' in 'mater' is pronounced like the 'a' in China. The final 'r' is silent."

"The following are some of the 'spoonerisms' received from the readers. Some are original and some are not. The name of the contributor is given within brackets. My thanks to all those who sent in their favourite 'spoonerisms'. I am sorry it hasn't been possible to publish all of them.

'Son, it is kisstomary to cuss the bride' instead of 'Son, it is customary to kiss the bride' (P. T. Thomas, Panavelel, Women's College Lane, Vazhuthacad, Trivandrum). 'Will you take me, instead of 'Will you make tea?' (B. Santosh Rao, H10/3, Second Avenue, Indira Nagar, Adayar, Madras-20). 'I wrote to you my wale of toe' instead of 'I wrote to you my tale of woe' (Vaziruddin Ahmed, Regional Engg. College, Warangal). 'Our queer old dean' instead of 'Our dear old queen' (Sridhar Pandurangiah, D-11, Officers' Qrts. BEML Nagar, Kolar Gold Fields, Karnataka). 'Lame duck's benign smile' instead of 'dame luck's benign smile' (H. Nallaiah, Department of Microbiology, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai).

'Prying fan' instead of 'frying pan'; 'slower flow' instead of 'flower show'; 'wish daughter' instead of 'dish water'; 'cheesey air' instead of 'easy chair'; 'bent to wed' instead of 'went to bed'; 'bloating fridge' instead of 'floating bridge' (P. S. Moharir, 161, Vikasnagar, University of Roorkee, Roorkee-247667).

'Shoving leopard' instead of 'Loving shepherd' (S. Rajagopalan, Scientist, NAL. Bangalore-17). 'Is there no mood for free' instead of 'Is there no food for me?' (S. J. Srinivasan, 2/62, Bagapath St. Manamadurai, TN).

'You have kissed all my mystery lectures and tasted two worms' instead of 'You have missed all my history lectures and wasted two terms' (C. Rajagopalan, H47/1 HIG Flat, LB Road, Tiruvanmiyur). 'Prefer buns to gutter' instead of 'Prefer guns to butter' (Prof. P. L. Antony, Panangad House, 11/215, Paravattani, Trichur). 'Foolish Poke dances' instead of 'Polish Folk Dances'; 'Your ships are slowing' instead of 'Your slips are showing' (S. Lalitha, E-36, RBI Staff Qrs, Kamaraj Salai, KK Nagar, Madras-78). 'He chilled the kitchen' instead of 'He killed the chicken' (T. Kannan, 30, North Vania St.Thathlengarpet, TN). 'Wishing you a happy ledded wife' instead of 'Wishing you a happy wedded life' (M. T. Raghavan, P.B. No. 115, Bangalore-52)."

Published in The Hindu on October 6, 1987

Word of the day

Corsage:
an arrangement of flowers that is usually given as a present

Synonyms: bouquet, posy

Usage: *The dress comes with a matching corsage.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/corsagepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /kɔːˈsɑːʒ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Cash withdrawn from bank account of Directorate of EDCS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The central division cybercrime police are on the lookout for a person who hacked into the bank account belonging to the State government-owned Directorate of Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services (EDCS) on March 22.

The incident came to light on Wednesday when Meena J., accountant, found that the amount had been encashed by presenting two cheque leaves from the account belonging to the directorate. Ms. Meena in her complaint said that the directorate does not issue any cheque to any person. The police have sought CCTV footage.

Two peddlers caught, marijuana worth ₹30 lakh recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police on Thursday unearthed an inter-State drug racket and arrested a 26-year-old man with 70 kg of marijuana, which he had allegedly brought from Odisha in a train to deliver it to his local contacts in K.R. Market. Earlier, based on a tip-off, the police arrested a local peddler Subash, who was allegedly receiving a consignment from his contact in Odisha. The police then caught Raj Kishore Sahani red-handed at Balekai Mandi West Gate parking lot when he had come to deliver the consignment. A probe revealed that he would conceal the drugs among vegetable and fruit loads from Odisha and bring it in the train.

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Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

D.K. Suresh files papers from Kanakapura as a 'precautionary step'

Congress MP D.K. Suresh submitting his nomination papers at Kanakapura in Ramanagara on Thursday. ANI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As a precautionary move, since KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar has 19 cases pending against him (though with no convictions), his brother and Congress MP from Bengaluru Rural, D.K. Suresh, filed his nomination for the Assembly elections from Kanakapura as an Independent candidate.

Mr. Shivakumar is the Congress candidate from Kanakapura.

A Congress source said the decision to field Mr. Suresh as an Independent candidate was taken as a "precautionary measure and nothing else" as 19 cases were pending against Mr. Shivakumar. Cases include those filed under Prevention of Money Laundering Act and for evasion of Income Tax.

No convictions

"There are no convictions, but we wanted to play it safe. We all know how the BJP misuses Central investigation agencies," said a Congress source. "In a desperate attempt, they may strike against Mr. Shivakumar. The party decided that Mr. Suresh should contest as a back-up candidate."

The BJP has fielded Revenue Minister R. Ashok to contest against Mr. Shivakumar from Kanakapura constituency. Mr. Ashok and Mr. Shivakumar belong to the Vokkaliga community. The last day for withdrawal of nomination papers in Karnataka is April 24

Earlier, it was speculated that the Congress would field Mr. Suresh from Padmanabhanagar constituency in Bengaluru against Mr. Ashok. Along with Padmanabhanagar, Mr. Ashok is also contesting from Kanakapura.

But Mr. Suresh's nomination from Kanakapura constituency has come as a surprise.

HC dismisses DKS' plea against consent to CBI to probe corruption case

The case pertains to the Congress leader allegedly possessing ₹74.93 cr. assets disproportionate to his known sources of income

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a setback to KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar, the High Court of Karnataka on Thursday refused to interfere with the consent given by the State government to the CBI to probe the corruption case against him for allegedly possessing ₹74.93 crore assets disproportionate to his known sources of income during the check period 2013-2018, when he was serving as Minister.

Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar canvassing in support of party candidate B.L. Devaraj at Krishnarajapet in Mandya district on Thursday. ANI

Petition filed in 2020

Justice K. Natarajan passed the order while dismissing the petition filed in 2020 by Mr. Shivakumar.

The KPCC president had questioned the legality of the sanction given by the State government on September 25, 2019, allowing the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to probe the case against him under Section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, within the territory of the State.

Opposing Mr. Shivakumar's plea, the CBI had contended that there was no need for assigning reason for granting sanction to the CBI to conduct investigation in the territory of the State.

Sanction questioned

Also, the CBI had pointed out that the High Court had already upheld the same sanction, which was questioned by another accused in the case. One Shashi Kumar Shivanna, who is Mr. Shivakumar's close relative and working in a public sector undertaking, had unsuccessfully questioned the sanction, the CBI had pointed out.

The court, noticing pendency of Mr. Shivakumar's petition questioning the legality of sanction, on February 10, 2023, had stayed further investigation by the CBI against him stating it was necessary to stay the investigation till the disposal of the petition challenging the legality of the sanction.

The order of staying investigation was passed on a petition filed in 2022 by Mr. Shivakumar questioning the correctness of registration of the FIR by the CBI after obtaining sanction.

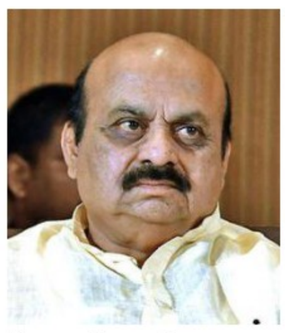
This petition is pending for final adjudication before the court.

Lingayat leaders in BJP want party's CM candidate to be from the community

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Lingayat leaders of the BJP have suggested to the party Central leadership to declare a Lingayat leader as the party's chief ministerial candidate in a bid to tackle the Opposition Congress' allegations that the BJP has ignored and insulted its Lingayat leaders.

The suggestion was made at a meeting held at the residence of BJP veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa in Bengaluru on Wednesday night that was attended by about 30 prominent leaders, including Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, to discuss the ways and means of "neutralising" the Congress narrative that the BJP is ignoring its prominent Lingayat leaders, after many of them were denied ticket.



Basavaraj Bommai

After many exits

The leaders are said to have taken stock of the situation with respect to former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar and Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi, both of whom are Lingayats, quitting the BJP and joining the Congress.

BJP's State poll incharge Dharmendra Pradhan is also said to have attended the meeting in which all the prominent Lingayat leaders of the BJP, including Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, took part.

Former Minister M.P. Renukacharya, who was among the Lingayat leaders who attended the meeting, confirmed on Thursday that the meeting had sought that a Lingayat leader be declared as the chief ministerial candidate.

The BJP Lingayat leaders, who are concerned about the Congress trying to woo Lingayat voters banking on the support of Mr. Shettar and Mr. Savadi, discussed the ways and means of keeping the party's main vote base of Lingayats intact. They also reportedly discussed about launching a counter-attack at Mr. Shettar and Mr. Savadi.

No decision

Responding to queries on the meeting, Mr. Bommai told media persons that no decision has been taken yet on declaring a Lingayat leader as the chief ministerial candidate.

Meanwhile, sources in the BJP said the party thinktank may not favour such an approach at this point for strategic reasons as it may affect the enthusiasm of leaders outside of the community.

The meeting is also learnt to have decided to "expose" the newfound love of the Congress towards Lingayats by daring it to declare Mr. Shettar or any other Lingayat leader as its chief ministerial candidate.

BJP leader and Minister V. Somanna on Thursday urged the Congress to declare a Lingayat leader as its chief ministerial candidate instead of accusing the BJP of ignoring Lingayats. The Congress responded to this by saying that the party did not have the tradition of declaring the candidate before elections.

In a series of tweets, BJP Vice-President B.Y. Vijayendra too hit out at the Congress on the Lingayat issue and wondered why the Congress did not have single Lingayat Chief Minister in 50 years barring Veerendra Patil's regime for just nine months. He also wondered how anyone forget the insult to Mr. Patil as CM, who was unceremoniously removed.

INBRIEF

JD(S) releases list of 25 star campaigners

The Janata Dal (Secular) has released a list of 25 star candidates, including six members from the party supremo H.D. Deve Gowda's family. Besides the former Prime Minister, the party has listed former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, former Minister H.D. Revanna, legislator Anitha Kumaraswamy, Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, and Nikhil Kumaraswamy. It also listed party president C.M. Ibrahim and former Rajya Sabha MP Kupendra Reddy, besides four MLCs.

Election Commission seizes ₹36.23 crore in 24 hours

The Election Commission has seized ₹36.23 crore in the last 24 hours. With this, the total seizures since March 29 when the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into force crossed ₹239.52 crore. The EC had seized cash and articles worth nearly ₹58 crore even before the elections were announced (from March 9 to 27). After MCC came into force, the amount of cash seized was ₹79.51 crore, while liquor worth ₹47.93 crore, narcotics worth ₹15.82 crore, precious metals worth ₹77.52 crore, and freebies worth ₹18.71 crore were seized.

Party-hoppers in the fray

A list of candidates who shifted to a different party ahead of elections and managed to get the ticket

- HUBBALLI-DHARWAD CENTRAL: **Jagadish Shettar** (from BJP to Congress)
- ATHANI: **Laxman Savadi** (from BJP to Congress)
- Gurmitkal: **Baburao Chinchansur** (from BJP to Congress)
- YELLAPURA: **V.S. Patil** (from BJP to Congress)
- HIREKERUR: **U.B. Banakar** (from BJP to Congress)
- MOLAKALMURU: **N.Y. Gopalkrishna** (from BJP to Congress)
- GUBBI: **S.R. Srinivas** (from JD-S to Congress)
- RAJAJINAGAR: **Puttanna** (from BJP to Congress)
- ARSIKERE: **K.M. Shivalinge Gowda** (from JD-S to Congress)
- **N.R. Santhosh** (from BJP to JD-S)
- KALGHATAGI: **Nagaraj Chabbi** (from Congress to BJP)
- MANVI: **B.V. Nayak** (from Congress to BJP)
- SHIVAMOGGA CITY: **Ayanur Manjunath** (from BJP to JD-S)
- MUDIGERE: **M.P. Kumaraswamy** (from BJP to JD-S)
- BIDAR NORTH: **Suryakanth Nagamarapalli** (from BJP to JD-S)
- KADUR: **Y.S.V. Datta** (from Congress to JD-S)
- CHITRADURGA: **Raghu Achar** (from Congress to JD-S)
- YADGIR: **A.B. Malakkareddy** (from BJP to JD-S)
- MANGALURU NORTH: **Mohiuddin Bawa** (from Congress to JD-S)
- BALLARI CITY: **Anil Lad** (from Congress to JD-S)
- VARUNA: **Bharathi Shankar** (from BJP to JD-S)
- HALIYAL: **S.L. Ghotnekar** (from Congress to JD-S)
- HANGAL: **Manohar Tahsildar** (from Congress to JD-S)
- JEWARGI: **Doddanagouda Patil** (from BJP to JD-S)
- BAGALKOT: **Devaraj Patil** (from Congress to JD-S)
- ARKALGUD: **A. Manju** (from BJP to JD-S)

Show of strength

The JD(S) took out a procession in Hassan on Thursday. Leaders H.D. Deve Gowda, H.D. Kumaraswamy, and others took part. PRAKASH HASSAN

Vinay Kulkarni moves HC seeking permission to enter Dharwad

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni, who is contesting from Dharwad Assembly constituency, has moved the High Court seeking permission to enter Dharwad district for 50 days to campaign.

Mr. Kulkarni, who is accused in the charge sheet filed by CBI and another case registered for allegedly threatening the witnesses in the murder, was barred from entering Dharwad district by the apex court in 2021 while granting him bail in the murder case. He has now moved the High Court as the Special Court of Sessions to deal with criminal cases related to MPs/MLAs in Karnataka on April 18, 2023, declined to relax the condition of barring him to enter Dharwad district.

Justice K. Natarajan, before whom the petition came up for hearing, ordered issue of notice to the CBI and adjourned hearing till April 21.

'Cong. listed anti-national as star campaigner'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Minister and BJP State election management committee convener Shobha Karandlaje on Thursday accused the Opposition Congress of using "anti-nationals" for its campaign in the forthcoming Karnataka Assembly elections.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, Ms. Karandlaje took exception to the Congress including Rajya Sabha MP Imran Pratapgarhi in the list of its star campaigners. She alleged that Mr. Pratapgarhi had close links with the slain gangster from U.P. Atiq Ahmed.

Mr. Pratapgarhi, during his earlier visit to Karnataka, had tried to instigate Muslims, she alleged.

An elusive quest for political representation for these tribal people

R. Krishna Kumar
Raviprasad Kamila
MYSURU/MANGALURU

The Assembly elections have brought to the fore the question of the inadequate representation of tribal communities and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) in the political process.

In the run-up to the poll, the office of the Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) took up a special drive to enrol all eligible voters from the Jenu Kuruba and Koraga communities, both of which are PVTGs in the State. The drive achieved 100% enrolment as per the final electoral rolls published on January 5. However, marginalisation in these communities is true not only with respect to the political process but also in terms of education, health, and employment.

Susheela Koraga Nada, president of the Federation of Koraga Development Associations in Karnataka and Kerala, speaking to presspersons in Udupi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Susheela Nada, president of the Federation of Koraga Development Associations in Karnataka and Kerala, says that the Koraga community's population was about 20,000 according to the 1991 census, but has declined since then. "Decline in the population is a major concern but the reasons are not ascertained," she says while pointing to health issues, including the prevalence of rare diseases among the Koragas.

In the case of Jenu Kurubas, apart from the population decline, their life span is lower than the average life expectancy in the country. This calls for scientific studies to ascertain the cause and make appropriate interventions, says Prabha Urs, deputy director of the Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute (KSTRI). On educational parameter, the Jenu Kurubas are at the bottom of the ladder with just a handful of graduates; the Koragas are relatively better off, but only marginally.

Dominant STs snag benefits

While the Jenu Kurubas live in Mysuru, Kodagu and Chamarajanagar, the Koraga community mainly lives in Udupi and the Dakshina Kannada belt, apart from small pockets in Kasargod in Kerala. KSTRI has pegged the population of Jenu Kurubas at 36,076 while the population of the Koragas is 14,794, according to the 2011 census.

There is a strong perception that numerically dominant communities within the STs in the State have cornered all political and socio-economic benefits. Such rumblings are not new and came to the fore within 15 years after the affirmative action programme was launched in 1950. For instance, a report authored by P.N. Lokur noted that 'it has been in evidence for some time that a lion's share of the various benefits and concessions earmarked for the SCs and STs is appropriated by the numerically larger and politically well-organised communities."

In Karnataka, multiple communities have been clustered to make for 50 groups under the ST category. Their cumulative population is 42,48,987 as per the 2011 census. The cluster of communities coming under a single group and comprising Naik, Valmiki, Parivara Talawara, Nayaka etc account for almost 33 lakh people. But the larger cluster, comprising 49 other groups, accounts for only 9.5 lakh people under the ST category, spread thin across the State.

This has led to a demand for internal reservation within the ST category, which was aired again when the Basavaraj Bommai-led Karnataka Government increased the reservation quota for STs from 3% to 7%. In fact, the government has recently recommended internal reservation among SC communities, but not STs. The Karnataka State Permanent Backward Classes chairperson K. Jayaprakash Hegde has called for a separate reservation for PVTGs like the Koragas, as their wards cannot compete with other ST children.

No permanent teachers

"The lack of representation of Jenu Kurubas in government jobs, and their poor education levels can be traced to the state of affairs of Ashram Schools run by the Tribal Welfare Department," argues S. Sreekant of Hunsur-based NGO DEED. Of the 119 Ashram Schools run by the Department of Tribal Welfare, none of them has even a single permanent teacher, he says.

The Ashram schools for tribal children were launched in 1969, and classes have been being handled by temporary teachers since their inception, says Ms. Urs of the KSTRI.

Mr. Sreekant and P.K. Ramu of the Budakattu Krishikara Sangha, argue that political representation alone can ensure policies that address socio-economic issues. Out of the 224 Assembly seats in Karnataka, 15 are reserved for STs. But the cluster with the Nayak-Naik-Valmiki-Pariwar communities constitute the electoral majority in all of them, leaving the rest with little hope of political representation.

INBRIEF

Arikompan-led wild elephant herd attacks hut in Idukki

A herd of wild elephants led by tusker Arikompan attacked a hut, near Chinnakkanal, in Kerala's Idukki on Wednesday. According to local residents, the elephants attacked the hut around 11 p.m. The family members were at a neighbour's house at the time and hence escaped the attack. They said the herd destroyed the kitchen and several items kept in the hut. Local residents reached the spot and chased away the elephants.

More protection for approver in Vivekananda murder case

The Andhra Pradesh Police Department has provided additional security cover to Shaik Dastagiri, the driver who turned approver in the murder case of former Kadapa MP Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy, in view of the increased threat perception. He had sought additional protection from the department. The move comes days after the arrest of Y.S. Bhaskar Reddy, uncle of Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Judicial custody of train arson accused extended till May 5

The Principal Sessions Court in Kozhikode on Thursday extended the judicial custody of train arson suspect Shahrukh Saifi till May 5. The procedure was completed through videoconferencing as the suspect was at the high-security jail at Viyyur. As Saifi had already been charged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the case had been shifted to the Principal Sessions Court. A report on the investigation by the Kerala Police was also submitted for the court's consideration.

Kerala roads come under the watch of AI-enabled cameras

They are part of State's efforts to enforce traffic rules; erring riders will receive alerts on their mobile phones regarding their violations immediately; public to be sensitised on new system

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A State-wide network of 726 artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled surveillance cameras went live on Thursday to bolster the Kerala government's efforts to minimise fatalities due to road accidents and check traffic rule violations.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan formally commissioned the fully automated traffic enforcement system implemented by the Motor Vehicles department as part of its 'Safe Kerala' project at a function held here.

The installations include 675 cameras which will detect offences such as failure to wear helmets and seat belts, and instances of hit-and-run; 25 to spot unauthorised parking; 18 to capture visuals of vehicles jumping traffic signals; and eight to monitor overspeeding.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan switching on the newly installed cameras, in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

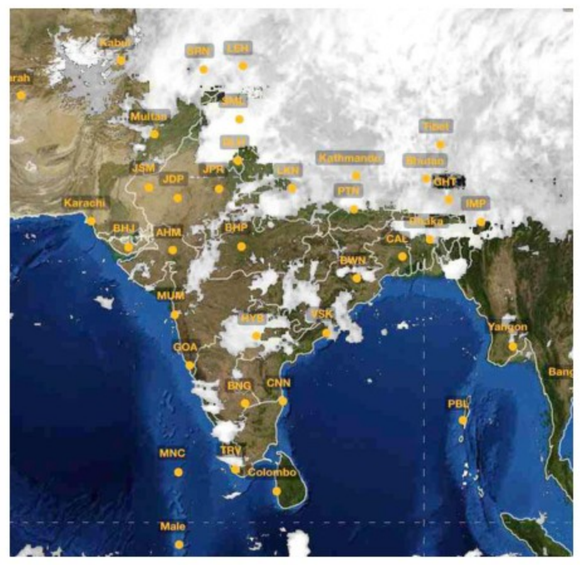
The penalties for violations are: use of mobile phone while driving: ₹2,000, speeding: ₹1,500, driving/riding without fastening seat belts/wearing helmets: ₹500, and unauthorised parking: ₹250. The cameras were installed at a cost of ₹232 crore.

Speaking at the launch, Transport Minister Antony Raju said erring motorists would be fined from May 20. The department would focus on sensitising the public to the new system during the period.

However, the offenders would receive alerts on their mobile phones regarding their violations right away. He said the government was mulling revising speed limits in view of the improvement of the road condition in the State.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty wind likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, interior Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	38.0	26.9	Kozhikode	—	37.4	28.0
Ahmedabad	—	39.0	25.3	Kurnool	—	42.0	28.3
Aizawl	—	33.6	18.1	Lucknow	—	40.0	24.5
Allahabad	—	41.8	24.6	Madurai	—	40.8	26.1
Bengaluru	—	36.0	23.6	Mangaluru	—	34.7	26.2
Bhopal	—	37.5	23.4	Mumbai	—	37.3	26.6
Bhubaneswar	—	43.2	26.0	Mysuru	—	36.0	23.0
Chandigarh	10	33.2	20.0	New Delhi	—	36.3	23.4
Chennai	—	39.7	27.2	Patna	—	43.3	27.2
Coimbatore	—	37.5	25.2	Port Blair	—	34.4	26.7
Dehradun	16	32.7	18.0	Puducherry	—	38.6	27.4
Gangtok	5	21.4	15.2	Pune	—	38.5	24.7
Goa	—	34.1	26.9	Raipur	—	43.0	27.2
Guwahati	—	32.2	20.0	Ranchi	—	39.2	24.4
Hubballi	—	38.0	23.0	Shillong	0.6	28.3	23.6
Hyderabad	—	38.0	27.0	Shimla	29	18.2	9.6
Imphal	5	33.1	17.6	Srinagar	28	14.0	7.9
Jaipur	—	36.8	26.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	35.0	27.3
Kochi	—	33.6	27.4	Tiruchi	—	40.3	27.4
Kohima	8	29.0	13.4	Vijayawada	—	37.6	25.6
Kolkata	—	41.7	28.7	Visakhapatnam	—	33.6	28.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	36	—	83	95	
Bengaluru	8	46	38	116	136	
Chennai	3	75	90	92	77	
Delhi	18	32	31	142	242	
Hyderabad	18	—	172	118	113	
Kolkata	10	9	27	102	124	
Lucknow	18	53	30	253	175	
Mumbai	60	18	27	79	137	
Pune	27	46	42	369	244	
Visakhapatnam	16	43	50	102	150	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Pune, Maharashtra recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 366 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PSLV-C55 mission: ISRO to carry out in-orbit scientific experiments using spent PS4

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

ISRO, which is scheduled to launch the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle C55 (PSLV-C55) mission on April 22 with Singapore's TeLEOS-2 as primary satellite and Lumelite-4 as a co-passenger satellite, will carry out in-orbit scientific experiments by using spent PS4 (fourth and final stage of PSLV) as orbital platform.

The PSLV-C55 mission has the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM), where the spent PS4 of the launch vehicle would be utilised as an orbital platform to carry out scientific experiments through non-separating payloads.

This is the third time that PS4 will be used after satellite separation as a platform for experiments.

According to the space agency, POEM has seven experimental non-separable payloads The PSLV-C55 mission is a dedicated commercial mission through NSIL. TeLEOS-2 and Lumelite-4 satellites are intended to be launched into an eastward low inclination orbit.

ISRO said that the TeLEOS-2 satellite is developed under a partnership between DSTA (representing the government of Singapore) and ST Engineering. Once deployed and operational, it will be used to support the satellite imagery requirements of various agencies within the government of Singapore. TeLEOS-2 carries a Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) payload. TeLEOS-2 will be able to provide all-weather day and night coverage, and be capable of imaging at 1m full-polarimetric resolution.

Lumelite-4 satellite is co-developed by the Institute for Infocomm Research (I^2R) of A*STAR and by the Satellite Technology and Research Centre (STAR) of the National University of Singapore. Lumelite-4 is an advanced 12U satellite developed for the technological demonstration of the high-performance spaceborne VHF Data Exchange System.

NIA files chargesheet against six persons in Coimbatore car blast case

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The NIA filed a chargesheet before the special court in Poonamallee on Thursday in connection with the car bomb blast that occurred in front of the Sangameswarar temple at Kottaimedu in Coimbatore on October 23, 2022. A vehicle-borne Improvised Explosives Device driven by Jameesha Mubin had blown up in front of the temple, killing him in the blast. Investigations had revealed Mubin was inspired by ISIS ideology to carry out the attack. Later, the NIA had taken up the investigation.

A pen drive recovered from Mohammed Asarutheen contained videos recordings of Jameesha Mubin, where he had identified himself as a member of Daulat-e-Islamia. He had spoken on his intention to commit a suicide terror attack against the 'kafirs' and to become a martyr.

Kerala SSLC results to be announced before May 20

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Kerala Minister for General Education V. Sivankutty said here on Thursday that Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) exam results would be published before May 20.

The results of Class 12 examinations would be published before May 25. The admission procedures for Plus One programmes would start once the results of the SSLC and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) examinations are published.

He said that works are progressing to ensure basic facilities in schools through the project on contingency assistance for infrastructure sustenance. The cleaning of wells on the campuses will be completed before May 30.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Chief Commissioner,
Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/84/2023-24 FORM - III Date: 15-04-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961** the following Area mentioned in the schedule below is required by **The Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for Formation of Road from Gear School Road to Peripheral Ring Road via Gunjur Palya, Varthur for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan 2015 for the width of 45.00 Mtrs.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Panathuru**

Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M (in Rs.)	Name and address of the owner of the Plot/Land for which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / Developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.M	Type of Construction & No. of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy. No. 112/3 BBMP Khata Sl. No: 5282, M.N. No: 248	Vacant Land		Converted A Khatha Land			1065.83 Sqm		Remaining portion of Sy. No: 112/3	Remaining portion of Sy. No: 112/3	Sy. No: 53	Sy. No: 112/2	None	None	None	Vacant	49,000/- Per Sqm	Chinnamma Alias Rathnamma W/o. Lt. Munisakappa, No: 75, B. Hosahalli, Handenahalli Post, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru - 562125

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub Divisional / Branch Office	Special Land Acquisition Officer, 1st Floor, Room No.107, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **Sir. SATISH NIRADI.** The Owner represent that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and apart from him there are no other person/s, having any right, title or claim over the Schedule Property and the Schedule Property is not mortgaged, or encumbered in any manner. The Owner represent that he has not entered into any MoU, Agreement of Sale or any sort of arrangement with any other person/s, with respect to the Schedule Property or part thereof. If any person/s having objection/s or claims may with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claims within 5 (Five) days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Residential Property bearing site No.665, bearing Katha No.729/703/665, measuring East to West by: 40 Feet, North to South by: 30 Feet, in all measuring 1200 Sq. Feet (133.33 Sq. Yards), in Judicial Layout, situated at Allalasandra Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the: -

East by : Road
West by : Site No.650
North by : Site No.664 and
South by : Site No.666

H M Harsha
UniLegal - Advocates and Attorneys
No.511, Ground Floor, 9th Cross, 6th Main, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore - 560 080
Phone: +91 98443-90581
e-mail: harsha@unilegal.in
Bangalore Date: 21-04-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR DOCUMENT LOST

Our Client **Mrs. Reeta Kapoor W/o. Mr. Raj Kapoor,** Aged about 60 years R/at No. 20, 6th Cross, Cadmet Layout, 80 feet Road, RMV II Stage, Bangalore-560 094, do hereby inform to the General Public that, She has misplaced/lost the Registered Sale deed dated 06.10.2001 executed by M/s. Sandicate Estates & and Properties in favour of Sri. Manish Shabarwal in resepct of Schedule property Registered on 20.12.2001 in the office of Sub-Registrar Nelamangala, Document No. 2463/2001-02, At near her house, RMV II Stage, Bangalore on 04.04.2023 and she has given police complaint to Bangalore Rural Police Lost Report No. 0522999/2023. My client Mrs. Reeta Kapoor to further informed to the General public that, she is intend to Sell the Schedule property to Sri. Karthik Jeswanth and Smt. Rashmi Jeshwanth. If any person/s, firm, Company, Institution or Organization has any claim are holding the afore said mentioned document or any objection they may contact to undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that, there are no claims or objections from any one.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of property bearing **site No. 50/A,** Khata No. 137/50/A carved in Sy No. 17, E Khata No. 150300700700200316 situated at **Byrashettahalli village, Kasaba hobli, Nelamangala taluk** measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 90 feet totally measuring 5400 Sq. feet and bounded on::

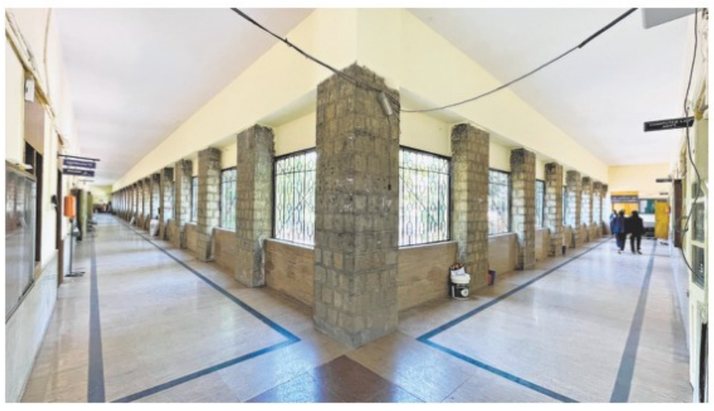
EAST BY : Site No. 50 ; WEST BY : Sot No. 212 ; NORTH BY : Site No. 206 ; SOUTH BY : Road;

GAJANAN S.M. Advocate
No. 14/3, CFC Building Opp. RBI
NT Road, Bangalore-560001
M : 9590817733

These educational institutions carry the stamp of heritage, changing academic patterns

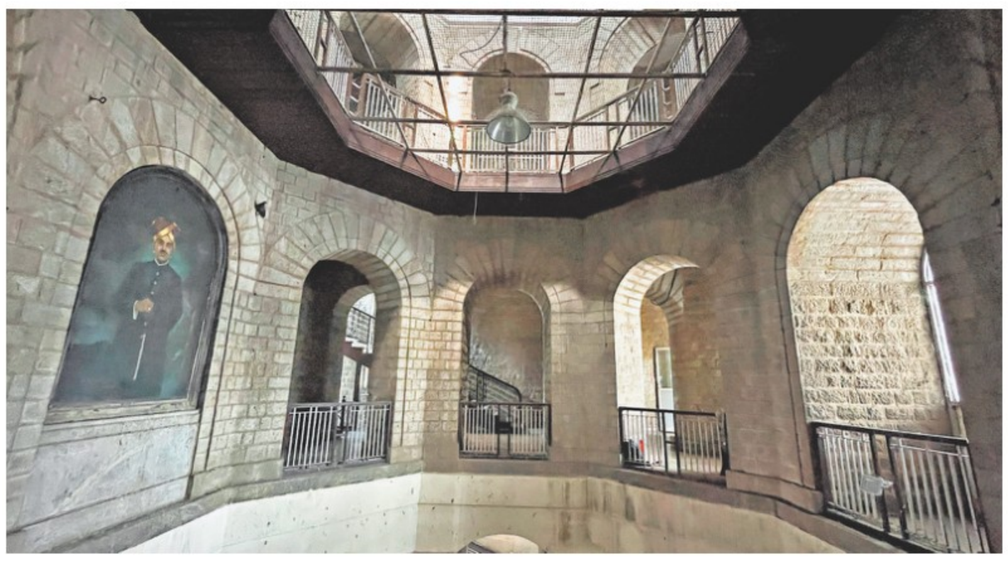
1963

Government Women's Polytechnic College, Bengaluru.



The education scenario in Bengaluru might currently be defined by a wide array of institutions – right from public schools to state-of-the-art private schools, international schools, private universities and colleges, and much more; but looking back at the pages of history, the city was home to some of the oldest educational institutions of the country. Most of them, along with some which even have heritage value, have been providing education to students even to this day. Many of them are also bound by a common thread – the patronage of the Wadiyar dynasty. In the recent Budget, the State government announced that a feasibility study would be taken up to create a Heritage and Educational District in a 5-kilometre radius of the Central Business District, which would involve all the historical educational institutions in the area. ***Jahnavi T.R.*** visited five such iconic institutions which stand proud in the heart of the city to check on their current status.

1938



Sri Krishna Rajendra Silver Jubilee Technological Institute, Bengaluru.

Sri Jayachamarajendra Government Polytechnic, Bengaluru.

1943

1858

Central College, Bengaluru.

1917

The University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering, Bengaluru.

PHOTOS: SUDHAKARA JAIN

The renowned alumni and the legacy of Central College

In 1858, to promote education, the British government established the Bengaluru Central High School, which later came to be known as Central College, one of the country's oldest colleges. While it was first affiliated with the Madras Presidency University, by 1917, it became a constituent college of Mysore University and was later brought under the umbrella of Bangalore University.

Bengaluru City University (BCU) has been established on the same campus. Lingaraja Gandhi, Vice Chancellor, BCU, rightly described it as a blend of old and new. The physics, chemistry, mathematics, zoology, botany and life science departments have remained on this campus for over 100 years now. The chemistry department even houses nine different labs. There is also a 100-year-old library on the campus.

The 160-year-old red heritage building is now being restored for ₹155 crores by the BCU. "A hall of fame, good drainage system, roads, a thematic park and a huge sports complex are among the things which are coming up here," said Prof. Gandhi.

Although there is construction activity going on around the vast campus, one cannot help but admire the building for its beauty. Speaking about the historical events and alumni of Central College, Prof. Gandhi said, "C.V. Raman disclosed his Nobel Prize-winning discovery on this very campus. Homi J. Baba was an atomic teacher here. Poet laureate Kuvempu was a teacher here. Both Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Sir Mirza Ismail graduated from here, and so did other notable figures like C. Rajagopalachari, C.N.R. Rao, seer Sivakumar Swami and Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah among others."

It is also noteworthy that over a century-old building is now being used to teach new-age subjects like Data Science, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, indicating that the campus has always adapted to the needs of the students of every generation.

SJP – Spreading the academic wings far and wide

During the reign of the Wadiyars, the Bhadravathi Steel Company was drowning in losses, and Sir M. Visvesvaraya was entrusted with the responsibility of its revival. He turned it around in such a way that the company recovered from its losses and recorded a profit.

Subsequently, he was given an honorarium of ₹2 lakh by the king. Refusing to take it personally, he diverted the same amount towards establishing an occupational institute, which was later converted into Sri Jayachamarajendra Government Polytechnic (SJP).

One of the biggest polytechnic colleges in South East Asia, SJP, now has over 2,000 students enrolled across 16 technical courses. The college has also established two twinning programmes with Athens University in the United States where students will be sent next year.

Although the college has a vast campus, adjoined by a huge playground, like any old building, it also needs some infrastructural improvements. A few students on campus revealed that the number of restrooms is not enough for the strength of the college and said that more washrooms were an immediate requirement. An official from the management seconded it and said labs also need upgradation.

At this college, too, students were not aware of the historical connections the institution had. Many just shrugged and said they joined there "because it is a good college".

"Students today are not bothered by the history of any place. They join these institutions, mainly under the direction of their parents and then come here and study. There are boards at the college speaking about the history, towards which they do not pay much heed. The government should consider advertising these stories more in the press and media," the official said.

First women's polytechnic college in Asia

Located behind the S.J. Polytechnic College is the Government Polytechnic for Women, which was established in 1963. In the heat of the mid-afternoon, there were young women walking around the campus in their blazered uniforms with big aspirations ahead.

With an aim to provide an educational institution for women to study technical courses, the queen of the Wadiyar dynasty, Tripura Sundari Ammanni, provided the land and also inaugurated this college. From 30-60 students enrolled in four courses to 1,160 students across seven courses now, this institution is thriving. Not just in the country, but this women's polytechnic college was the first in Asia.

Situated within the long corridors of the building was the principal's office, where Pavana P. spoke about how there is a need to upgrade the infrastructure at the college. "We need more buildings added to the campus with upgraded labs, restrooms and water facilities. We are reaching international levels with our students now, and we need amenities like smart classrooms and a common resource centre to help them compete outside."

Like with any other institution, the courses and curriculum have improved drastically here. The recently introduced gaming and animation course has attracted a lot of students, the principal said.

Once a premium institution for textile technology

To honour the completion of Nalwadi Krishnarajendra Wadiyar's 25-year reign, Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Sir Mirza Ismail established the Government Sri Krishna Rajendra Silver Jubilee Technological Institute (SKRSJTI) in 1938.

"It was a premium institution for textile technology in India from the British era," said M.B. Patil, Head of the Department, Civil Engineering. He added that while textile technology was the first course which was started there, then came silk technology department.

Even to this day, the students of the textile technology course secure the highest placements here, but the government is not recruiting any new teachers for the course, Prof. Patil said.

There are now around 850 students studying at the institute in various branches including civil, electronics, and computer science. The classrooms are huge and there are cement bags and other construction supplies lying around in the corridors.

The textile technology workshop here is being renovated by the State government at a cost of ₹38.5 crore. A new building is also coming up which is expected to accommodate several labs and new age machinery purchased by various departments.

"The new building is coming up, but we feel happy when we are sitting inside this very architecturally fine, stone building itself," Prof. Patil said with a smile.

UVCE stands strong on the stone laid by Sir M. Visvesvaraya

With a plan to match the colour of the High Court and the Central College, the University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) followed the same red colour scheme. The heritage building was inaugurated in 1917 by Sir M. Visvesvaraya, and named Government Engineering College. He had also planned its architecture. It was the first engineering college in the State and fifth engineering college of the country.

Today, around 4,100 students, across eight undergraduate, 24 postgraduate and many PhD programmes, study on this campus. "Sir M. Visvesvaraya had this rule where he had said that nothing should be named after him while he was alive. Only after his passing the college was renamed as UVCE," said Professor H.N. Ramesh, Principal, UVCE.

He added that recently during the construction of the canteen, it was noticed that the UVCE building was built on a stone which had sloped in an architecturally beneficial manner. "It all goes to show how brilliant Sir Visvesvaraya's planning was." The heritage value of the building is being protected, thanks to the grants by the State government.

What has changed in the span of 100 years? Prof Ramesh said, "Back then, there were no placements, nor any research. Today, we have almost 98% placements here, and we conduct extensive research, publish papers and also provide consultancy services for various government departments. Now, we also have faculty from IITs, IISc, and those who have completed PhDs from foreign universities who can provide hands on experience to the students."

UVCE was also recently in the news for the fund crunch as the government did not allot money after it was granted autonomous status in 2022. Bangalore University had also rejected UVCE's request to maintain the status quo as a constituent college until March 2023. However, after much outrage, earlier this month, the government approved the release of ₹35 crore for the operations of UVCE while also extending its status quo with Bangalore University.

Crime chronicles Stills from *Dancing On The Grave*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The makers of the true-crime series *Dancing On The Grave* talk about the 1991 Shakereh Khaleeli murder case in Bengaluru

Revisiting a murder

Praveen Sudevan
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One of the news blurbs of the Shakereh Khaleeli murder case reads, almost like the summary of a pulpy thriller, 'Man buried his wife alive in her backyard so that he could get her property.' This one line is indicative enough of the crime's sensationalistic potential.

But there is more to it. Shakereh was the granddaughter of the Diwan of Mysore. She divorced her first husband, Akbar Mirza Khaleeli (with whom she had four daughters), and went against social norms to marry Murali Manohar Mishra, (later renamed himself as Swami Shradhananda), who is the man referred to in the news blurb mentioned above.

Shakereh's murder in 1991 at her house in Richmond Town, Bengaluru, is considered among the most heinous and infamous crimes in India's criminal history.

No wonder it has spawned a true crime docuseries – *Dancing On The Grave*, which will be streaming on Amazon Prime Video from April 21.

"Though it took place in Bangalore, the story is known all over India," says Chandni A Dabas, the series producer. "Shakereh Khaleeli's first husband was an IFS officer. So, a lot of bureaucrats and people in the forces remember this story very well. I am from Delhi. And even today, many people I know talk about it."

She and her team were looking for someone who could tell this story cinematically with adequate sensitivity. That is when they zeroed in on the British filmmaker Patrick Graham, whose works include *Ghoul*, *Betaal*, and *Leila* – Netflix thrillers, all three. He was hooked to the story. And he took up the challenge of working in a non-fiction show. So, he came on board.

The director and producer of *Dancing On The Grave* talk about the intricacies involved in making a true-crime show and more over a video call from Mumbai and Delhi, respectively.

Excerpts:-

***Q:** What made you pursue the Shakereh Khaleeli murder case in particular?*
Chandni: When we start a documentary project, one of the first things we ask ourselves is, "What archives do we have?" This story had the most astonishing footage from the '90s. It was such a universal story in some ways. Even though it happened so many years ago, we still found it riveting.
Patrick: When I first read the story, I remember being shocked. It was visceral. Every turn of the page had a new twist. It really stayed with me. And that prompted me to tell this story.

***Q:** Since this is a docuseries, you cannot envision its output as well as you can in a film or fictional series. So, how different was it for you, Patrick, to make a documentary?*
Patrick: Ultimately, you are still telling a story with different building blocks for it. As you pointed out, you can't plan everything. You use interviews that you compile along the way – they inform the story and the narrative flow. It's been a fascinating process for me as a first-time documentary filmmaker.

***Q:** Did you have to recreate Bangalore of the early Nineties? If yes, how challenging was that?*
Patrick: Yeah, it was almost like shooting a period film. For instance, we had to recreate the interiors and the exteriors of Shakereh's early '90s house (where she was murdered), police stations, courtrooms, etc. We even hired some vintage cars for some portions. It was a full-fledged recreation of the '90s. We had a wonderful art team and production designer who did all those things for us.
Chandni: We had a lot of footage from that time that we could use. So we could reference and research to recreate a lot of this. For instance, nobody is allowed inside the house where the murder took place. So, with the help of the footage, we were able to reconstruct the entire house in Bombay.

Stories come from the human need to sit around and gossip. And stories always teach us something. True crime stories serve as warnings: what we must avoid and what we should look out for
DIRECTOR PATRICK GRAHAM

***Q:** Patrick, what challenges did you face while working in a non-fiction format for the first time?*
Patrick: The main challenge was just getting used to another way of building a story. If you are writing fiction, you can pretty much put anything you want on the page. Here, we were writing from the stories that people told us. We must have done at least 50 interviews, out of which we filmed 20. Once you have the interviews, then, you have to figure out how best to tell the story visually. It's almost like putting together a puzzle. I had a wonderful co-writer to help me. And, of course, a lot of the story construction happens on the edit table as well. We had good editors. Overall, it was a really invigorating intellectual exercise for me.

***Q:** As a writer for fictional shows, you are used to creating drama. With a true crime documentary, however, you cannot sensationalise it too much. How did you tackle this dilemma?*
Patrick: We ensured we had as many perspectives as possible to tell the story. In my previous shows, I had to create suspense and maintain it throughout. But with *Dancing On The Grave*, the actual incident itself had all the suspense. It was the case of the truth being stranger than fiction. You can't write this stuff. It's incredible. This story doesn't need many embellishments. I just hope we've done the story justice. Also, we were mindful of the survivors of the story. People who are still alive, are still affected by it. It was a horrific tragedy.

***Q:** Finally, what is the role of a true-crime show?*
Chandni: Some of the most interesting stories are in the crime world. Therefore, we engage with them often. But I think it's important to contextualise intelligently. In true crime, through one story, you're able to look at many facets of the world. Second, we need to send a message saying "Crime doesn't pay."
Patrick: Stories come from the human need to gossip. And stories always teach us something. True crime stories serve as warnings: what we must avoid and what we should look out for.

Dancing On The Grave *will stream on Amazon Prime Video from April 21*

On the stage

Watch plays directed by Anmol Vellani and Dharini Komal this weekend in Bengaluru

Shilpa Anandraj
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The chairman of India Foundation for the Arts (IFA), Anmol Vellani's Hindi play, *Apne Ghar Jaisa*, features film and theatre actor Padmavati Rao and Abhitej Gupta.

The play revolves around a woman, who does anything and everything to turn away an unwelcome guest. In doing so, she enters a dark place within herself as she constructs caricatures of people 'not like us', and destroys the very thing she cherishes and wants to preserve.

Padmavati, who has carved a niche for herself with Hindi films *Teen*, *Padmavat* and the award-winning Kannada film *Ondaondu Kaladalli*, says over the phone, "The woman rents out a room and waits for a tenant. She begins to wonder about the person who may rent her room and fights her own assumptions, which are dominated by her own life experiences and beliefs." An active theatre practitioner for years, Padmavati says that over time, you learn to understand the director and portray what he wants.

"At the same time, you are trying to work with your own thinking process too. Learning never ends for anyone, and working with Anmol is an experience to treasure. He is alert and agile in his thinking, yet, particular in the way he wants to bring his thoughts to visuals." Understanding Anmol's need for perfection and given the parameters of the script, which Padmavati wrote, the actor says she was given a certain amount of liberty to bring her ideas onto the stage. "Anmol is a demanding director, but if you follow what he needs for the play, then you see the fluidity that comes into motion and the *jugalbandi* that happens between the actors, director, sound engineer and the entire team involved in the production."

Power packed Padmavati in *Apne Ghar Jaisa* and (above) a scene from *Draupadi*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Apne Ghar Jaisa will be staged on April 21 and 22, 7.30pm at Ranga Shankara. Tickets, ₹200, on BookMyShow.

Depicting Draupadi on stage

Dharini Komal, the founder of Komal Theatre in Chennai, brings the play *Draupadi* to Bengaluru this weekend. Having written and directed the play, Dharini describes the play as a mega theatrical production, with song and dance.

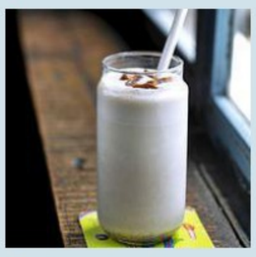
"It is about Draupadi, the heroic princess of the *Mahabharata*. She was a multi-talented and strong woman with an unbending will, an enigmatic woman of substance"

Dharini says the play depicts Draupadi as a woman of the Dvapara Yuga, who is deceived by circumstances. "She is torn between the power struggle and ego of the men in her life. The play also questions if she was forced into marrying the five men and how she dealt with the challenges of being their wife. The Tamil play has travelled across India and had shows in Dubai and Muscat recently. "We realised that language is never a barrier to enjoy the play. A member of the audience told us that he did not understand every word of the play, but could relate to every emotion enacted on stage."

The play has music by Raj Kumar Bharathi, and poetry by Satish Kumar with verses from Bharathiyar's *Paanjaali Sabatham*.

Draupadi *will be staged at Bangalore Gayana Samaja on April 22, at 6pm. Tickets on BookMyShow.*

STEPOUT



Festive feast
This Eid menu offers you traditional dishes such as dates milk shake, galouti kebab, chicken korma, fish kofta curry, sheermal and jarda pulao. Prices start at ₹205 onwards and will be available from noon to midnight.
On at Cafe Delhi Heights outlets till April 23.

Music makers
Unwind this weekend with the Tapi Project, who are into world/progressive music. The band features Swati Minaxi (vocals/trumpet), Yogendra Saniyawala (guitar/lyrics), Gaurav Kapadia (drums/percussions), Biju Nambiar (keyboard/bass).
At Windmills on April 21 and 22, 9.30pm. Tickets at https://windmills-india.com/#music

Dance, music, gadgets and more

Looking for a summer camp that encourages outdoor exploration and creative expression? Our list has got you covered

Team Metroplus

Make and break
Looking for a summer camp that is both educational and exciting? Check out Tinkernauts's programme for children aged seven to 14, located across three venues: Bangalore International Centre (Domlur), Lanford Town, and Popsicle Studios. The camp offers a variety of hands-on activities designed to teach children how to create things like electric guitars, Bluetooth speakers, and video games. The summer camp is an intense three-session programme (80 minutes per session). *On till May 27. Price ₹4,800/- for three classes per week. For more information, visit tinkernauts.in/summer or call 8867397171*

Outdoor autism programme
Inme has launched a four-day outdoor programme designed for children on the autism spectrum in Skandagiri. In collaboration with Snehadhara Foundation, experts in special education, the programme uses outdoor adventure activities such as backpacking, bouldering, zip lining, and rope courses to help children develop essential life skills. A doctor will be present on-site for medical needs. *On from May 12 to 15. For more information, visit inme.in/summer-camp-for-children-with-special-needs*

Notes and rhythms
Indian Music Experience (IME) in Bangalore is organising a summer camp for children aged eight to 12. The workshop aims to introduce children to different aspects of Indian music and explore their individual relationships with music. Participants will learn the basics of rhythm and notes and also develop their curiosity about instruments. The workshop will encourage children to compose and record small songs to enhance their music skills. *On from May 2 to 7. Price: ₹6,490. For more information, visit indianmusicexperience.org*

Unleash your moves
After a successful first edition, Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts has announced a second summer camp, which will be held from May 2 to May 13. The programme offers age-appropriate classes, themes, and personalised attention to develop dance skills and individual expression for participants aged six to 23. They can learn Bollywood, contemporary dance, kalarippayattu, Bharatanatyam, and old-school hip-hop. Additionally, a special module for parents will allow them to participate alongside their children. *On from May 2 to 13. Price: ₹3,000 onwards. Call 9972953973.*

Numbers game

Create economic opportunities to reap India's demographic dividend

The latest State of World Population Report, an authoritative analysis by the UN, has officially stamped what has been known for a while: that India will become the most populous country in mid-2023, surpassing China's 142.5 crore by about 3 million. These estimates are based on official country data as well as extrapolating birth, mortality and international migration trends. India has had a vacillating relationship with the size of its population. In the 'socialist' era, the growing population was a convenient excuse to explain India's poverty and the state's inability to improve average standards of living. These seeded deranged 'sterilisation' programmes that violently compromised dignity and freedom. Globalisation and the opening up of the economy in the 1990s saw India as a vast, untapped market, with 'fortunes at the bottom of the pyramid' that framed population as an advantage. India's large working age population – or the demographic dividend – relative to the developed countries, where the workforce was ageing, has provided labour-wage arbitrage and valuable economic opportunities. Indian numbers are behind the skilled and unskilled labour that power workforces in West Asia and Africa, undergird business process outsourcing projects from developed European countries and the United States, and are increasingly a significant component of university enrolment abroad.

This relative prosperity, though unable to solve India's crisis of economic inequality, has, however, busted the myth of forced sterilisation and legal limits on family sizes being key to population control. Despite overtaking China, India's population growth is slowing. The National Family Health Survey reported in 2021 that the total fertility rate had, for the first time, dipped to below the replacement level of 2.1. India's population is forecast to grow from its current 1.4 billion to 1.67 billion in 2050 before settling at 1.53 billion in 2100, with the peak at 1.7 billion sometime in 2064, according to UN estimates. While the pendulum of opinion regarding population has swung from 'disadvantage' to 'advantage' in national discourse, it is relevant to analyse the question while factoring in newer developments. Earlier population debates did not account for the climate crisis and the fact that many migrants, after years of skilled and unskilled labour abroad, were becoming permanent immigrants: over 16 lakh Indians have renounced citizenship since 2011, including 2,25,620 people in 2022, the highest during the period, the External Affairs Minister told Parliament in February. Economic opportunity, more than national pride, shapes the working population's aspiration and, in its absence, a naturally decelerating population will be of limited advantage.

Caring for strays

Without shelters, adoption of dogs, 2023 Rules could worsen canine crisis

According to the World Health Organization, 36% of the world's and 65% of Southeast Asia's rabies deaths happen in India. The National Rabies Control Programme has recorded 6,644 clinically suspected cases and deaths of human rabies in 2012-22. There have also been several media reports of the young and the old being attacked by packs of stray dogs, fatally in some cases. At the centre of these narratives is how India is responding to the stray dog menace. On April 18, the government announced the notification of its Animal Birth Control Rules 2023, which are likely to become as much a bone of contention as the earlier Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules 2001, were. They purportedly respond to three stimuli: strays cannot be relocated, as the Supreme Court of India has held; must not face cruelty; and must be cared for. Stray dogs are a nuisance by spreading disease; injuring and/or killing humans and wildlife; and by keeping people from accessing public spaces. The 2023 Rules require strays to be caught, vaccinated, neutered, and released back. Under the 2001 Rules, neither effort succeeded because the entire dog population (or at least a large fraction) needed to be treated at once. But the programme was implemented in piecemeal fashion, allowing some dog populations to supplant others over time and the menace to continue. Neutering and vaccination also do not prevent dogs from forming packs and harassing passers-by.

The 2023 Rules also ask residents' welfare associations to care for stray dogs and feed them away from the children and the elderly, at fixed intervals. This could further the dogs' homelessness, and thus susceptibility to disease, injury, and discomfort. In the process, the Rules also transform "stray dogs" into a new class of "community animals" – a contrivance whose purpose is not clear. Instead, the Rules must prohibit the improper disposal of solid waste and casual feeding of dogs, and require them to be adopted and directly cared for, to eliminate canine homelessness altogether. The Animal Welfare Board of India Secretary also told *The Hindu* that local authorities "will be held responsible for any violation [during birth-control procedures] and animal-human conflicts". As under the 2001 Rules, these authorities will be in a pickle without more funds and staff, the requisite infrastructure, and proper coordination. Without otherwise housing dogs in purpose-built shelters and promoting formal ownership, the 2023 Rules potentially create more points of failure at the level of local governments and residents' welfare associations while dressing up the cruelty of dog homelessness.

A new edge to the fight against tuberculosis

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan

is the former Chief Scientist of the World Health Organization (WHO), and currently leads the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation

At the One World TB Summit in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on March 24, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi instilled fresh energy to the global tuberculosis (TB) elimination response and reiterated India's commitment to spearhead this effort. Mr. Modi further emphasised the importance of innovation and the need to "find new ways and formulate new strategies" to achieve the desired outcomes. The Prime Minister's remarks are critical as we look to redefine India's and the world's TB elimination response – with innovation and research being central drivers of change.

Lessons from the COVID-19 response

The COVID-19 pandemic provides a good reflection point – even with innumerable challenges, countries were able to counter COVID-19 by drawing upon the innate human spirit to adapt, learn, experiment, and innovate. The pandemic has shown us that together, we can overcome unprecedented adversity. And if we could do it to overcome COVID-19, we can, and must certainly, do it to end TB.

Over the last few years, India has made significant progress in its efforts to end TB. India's National TB Elimination Programme, or the NTEP (previously known as the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, or RNTCP), has introduced several measures to find, notify and treat TB cases, with case notifications rising from 15.6 lakh in 2014 to over 24 lakh in 2022. This reflects the programme's expanded reach and improved detection measures.

Further, novel approaches including engagement with the private sector, launch of social support provisions and introduction of diagnostic tools and new drug regimens, have improved TB management. However, while these efforts have been commendable, lack of widespread awareness about the disease and lack of access to quality care continue to be a challenge. The recent National TB Prevalence Survey (in India) found that 64% of people with infectious TB did not seek care. As a result, national-level estimates suggest that for every person notified with TB, we miss detecting almost two more cases.

To address this challenge and truly bring transformative change in our TB response efforts, we will need to introduce disruptive approaches and new tools to change the way we prevent, diagnose, and treat TB. India has long recognised the importance of investing in health research and development, especially in recent years. The Mission COVID Suraksha programme to develop vaccines was a good example of a public-private partnership, with clear goals and outcomes. The huge number of diagnostic tests developed and a variety of different vaccine platforms show that our manufacturing sector is robust and can scale rapidly.

Innovation lies at the core of ending tuberculosis — India can lead the way

It is also heartening to see the establishment of centres of excellence, which will facilitate collaboration between Indian Council of Medical Research laboratories and the private sector. It is possible, therefore, to strengthen and expand research and development efforts for TB, to develop new tools that will help India (and other developing countries) meet the End TB targets.

Prioritise TB vaccine trials

First, for any infectious disease, a vaccine is what makes elimination possible. We do have the Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine for TB, but it does not adequately protect adolescents and adults who are at the highest risk for developing and spreading TB. While COVID-19 vaccines were developed within a year, we must prioritise and pick up the pace to find an effective TB vaccine. There are currently over 15 TB vaccine candidates in the pipeline; we must ensure that their clinical trials are prioritised to assess their efficacy in various community settings and for different target groups.

Second, testing for, and diagnosing TB needs to become more accessible and affordable so much so that each person with suggestive symptoms or frontline worker can test and get results within minutes, at minimal costs. Point-of-Care Tests (POCTs), such as home-based tests for COVID, allowed decentralised, rapid and low-cost diagnostics to provide results within minutes. New innovations such as nasal and tongue swab-based tests for TB can be a game changer by reducing diagnostic delays. Further, handheld digital x-ray machines (with artificial intelligence-based software) can now be taken to villages and urban settlements to screen large numbers of high risk individuals, safely and conveniently.

Third, the development and introduction of new therapeutic molecules can play a crucial role in the long run. While we continue to invest in drug discovery, we must also scale up newer and more effective regimens and also dip into our armoury to re-purpose existing drugs for TB. Shorter, safer, and more effective regimens do exist and include the 1HP regimen for latent TB infections, the four-month regimen (HPZM) for drug-susceptible TB, and the six-month regimen (BPaL/M) for drug-resistant TB. The evidence on these regimens is clear; timelines for scale-up, however, have been too long.

Appropriate policy frameworks

Finally, part of the process of strengthening the innovation ecosystem also involves creating regulatory and policy frameworks that smoothen the rollout of proven tools to reach people with as little delay as possible. This requires greater collaboration: not just between policymakers, scientists, product developers and clinical researchers across the country and even across regions, but potentially even between governments. Harmonisation of standards and regulatory processes between countries can enable mutual recognition of evidence-based standards and licences and save critical time towards rollout.

The COVID-19 pandemic proved India's apt title: pharmacy of the world. Our scientific ingenuity during the pandemic has cemented our position as pioneers in innovation in the life sciences. In this spirit, we must create a strong platform that channelises investments in research to bring in a paradigm shift at every stage of the TB care cascade – prevention, testing, and treatment. With its G-20 presidency, India has another historical opportunity to build a global health architecture that creates equitable access for all. Let us use this opportunity to call for the collaborative development of transformational tools and approaches that cater to not only our own needs but also that of the under-represented but disproportionately affected developing world. TB should no longer be the leading infectious disease killer globally, in the 21st century, and India can lead the way.

The olive branch effect of the Beijing Accord

Talmiz Ahmad

is a former Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates

Just over a month after the Beijing Accord restored ties between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the regional landscape is witnessing not war, death and destruction but ministers and diplomats dashing from one capital to another to discuss initiatives to promote political and economic cooperation.

The Foreign Ministers of Iran and Saudi Arabia have met in Beijing to discuss the details of mending their relations – opening embassies, operating direct flights and facilitating issue of visas. Officials of both countries have since gone to the respective capitals to reopen their diplomatic and consular missions that have been shuttered for over seven years.

Saudi and Omani diplomats have been in Sanaa to discuss the terms of a ceasefire in Yemen. And, the Syrian President, Bashar al-Assad, isolated for a decade, has been a welcome guest in Oman and the United Arab Emirates, while the Syrian Foreign Minister, Faisal Mekdad, has visited Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Truce in Yemen

Yemen is an early test-case for the resilience of the Saudi-Iran accord. The Saudis need an early exit from their costly Yemeni misadventure and want Iran to facilitate this by ending military supplies to the Houthis. But the kingdom is also aware that direct talks with Houthi leaders are essential for any peace process to move forward.

In early April, it was reported that the terms of a truce have been finalised between the Saudis and the Houthis: a ceasefire, an exchange of prisoners, the reopening of Sanaa airport, free access to Hodeidah port, the lifting of the blockade of Taiz by the Houthis, and the reunification of the Central Bank and payment of salaries to government employees from the oil revenues. These have been contentious issues in the past; clearly, the Saudi side has made major concessions to obtain the truce. Once the truce holds, the second stage of negotiations will cover: withdrawal of all foreign troops, the shape of the new political order, and the affirmation of a unified state. These discussions will be an intra-Yemeni matter. But, given the number of political groups in the country and the deep divisions between them on ideological, political, tribal and sectarian lines, it will be a formidable challenge to obtain agreement on these issues.

Diplomacy is replacing conflict across West Asia, with foreign policy decisions being made independently of American wishes

Again, as of now, it is unclear what role the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will play in the peace process, given that it controls several Yemeni ports, the strategically important islands of Perim, at the Bab al Mandab, and Socotra, in the Gulf of Aden, and supports the separatist Southern Transitional Council based in Aden.

However, the mood in Yemen is one of cautious optimism; a Houthi spokesperson has said that "an atmosphere of peace hangs over the region".

The accommodation of Syria

The earthquake that devastated Turkey and Syria in early February this year encouraged diplomatic engagements with Damascus, which have accelerated after the Saudi-Iran accord. Soon after the earthquake, Mr. Assad received delegations from Lebanon, Jordan and the UAE, spoke to the leaders of Bahrain and Egypt, and visited Oman on February 20.

After the accord that brought together the two countries that had been on opposite sides in the Syrian conflict, Mr. Assad visited Russia and the UAE, signalling the end of Syria's political isolation over 10 years. In Abu Dhabi, the UAE President, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, welcomed Mr. Assad by saying that it was "time for Syria to return to the Arab fold".

Syrian Foreign Minister Mekdad's visit to Cairo in early April, was the first such visit in a decade; this was followed by a visit to Jeddah. Saudi Arabia is expected to invite Syria to attend the Arab League summit in Riyadh in May, thus completing Syria's political rehabilitation.

Russia's principal ongoing effort is to reconcile Syria and Turkey: but further engagement is proving difficult as Syria insists on full Turkish military withdrawal from northern Syria. Substantial interactions are expected after the Turkish elections on May 14.

An emerging regional order?

The (now former) United States President, Barack Obama, in March 2016, in an interview with the *Atlantic* magazine, had urged Saudi Arabia and Iran "to find an effective way to share the neighbourhood and institute some sort of 'cold peace'". Ironically, in these hectic diplomatic interactions across West Asia, the U.S. is on the sidelines, often as a disgruntled observer. Clearly, the region has shrugged off the U.S. yoke and is taking foreign policy decisions independently of American wishes – the Beijing Accord illustrates this most dramatically.

Saudi Arabia has become a "dialogue partner" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and wants membership of BRICS. It will continue to buy weapons from the U.S., but is also diversifying its suppliers; it has bought ballistic missiles from China and has recently purchased Chinese technology to manufacture its own missiles. Saudi Arabia and Russia remain solid partners in the "OPEC +" conclave to manage oil production and prices.

Iran already has substantial defence, energy, economic and logistical connectivity ties with Russia and China – the three countries carried out another joint naval exercise in March. Iran has a central place in the Belt and Road Initiative, and is working with Russia to close the small gaps in the 7,200-km International North-South Transport Corridor that links Moscow with the western coast of India.

These developments presage two scenarios: one, a West Asian cooperative order founded on diplomatic engagements among regional states. This will in turn be part of a larger order, embracing Eurasia and the Indian Ocean, that is defined by multipolarity and encourages regional states to pursue their interests through diverse interactions and alignments. China can be expected to be at the centre of much of this diplomatic activity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Most populous country

That India is slated to top the world population chart evokes mixed feelings. On the one hand it sets alarm bells ringing in terms of the core issues of adequate food, shelter and jobs. On the other hand, the dip in the fertility rate augurs well for the economy and the welfare of future generations. But a word of caution: countries such as China experimented with the 'one-child norm' and gave it up very recently after analysing the country's needs. A cautious approach taking the future into account is the right course for population control and growth in our country.

A.V. Narayanan,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

The projection presents itself as both a challenge and an opportunity for India. In order to have more mouths adequately fed, we need to plan things well. The problem of plenty might lead to plenty of problems. We ought to keep track of the fertility rate. Family planning needs an urgent revamp.

Ayyasseri Raveendranath,
Aranmula, Kerala

I remember reading an article two decades ago that India would surpass China's population in the year 2043. This has turned out to be grossly off the mark! While *roti, kapda aur makan* will remain an issue, a newer and unfaced problem will be in finding avenues to profitably engage this mega human congregation in nation building. The challenge will lie in steering this humongous group towards an ideal society.

Dr. Sam Vijay Kumar J.,
Vanur, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Police excesses

I happened to watch the Tamil film, *Viduthalai*, recently, which portrays police excess in a blood-curdling way. Here, a police officer is shown plucking out the nails of a suspect using a pair of pliers — a reminder that there are real-life examples. (Tamil Nadu, April 20). Law and order should be maintained but without third-degree methods and a breach of human rights.

P. Bharath Varun,
Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu

Ratings for rhetoric

It is good to know about the Centre's proposed move (Page 1, "More age-appropriate ratings for films soon", April 20). But it is not films alone that have a lasting impact on young minds; the speeches of politicians have that potential too. Nowadays it is not uncommon to see some politicians coming up with slogans — a cocktail of hatred and violence — to improve their 'career prospects'. Will there be any move to have age-appropriate ratings for politicians' speeches and slogans, regardless of their party affiliations?

A. Venkatasubramanian,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Corrections & Clarifications

A sentence in the second paragraph of the front-page story titled "SC Collegium recalls Orissa CJ's transfer proposal" (April 20, 2023) that said the decision "comes after a nearly two-year wait for the government to respond" is incorrect since the recommendation on the transfer was made in September 2022.

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To read more letters online, scan the QR code. Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Is Mandal politics electorally salient again?

PARLEY

Mona G. Mehta

is Associate Professor in the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University

Amit Ahuja

is fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., and Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara

With the second phase of the caste survey beginning in Bihar, other political parties such as the Congress are also raising a pitch on the issue. Last month, there was a heated political war over sections of the *Ramcharitmanas* in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, with some leaders arguing that the text "abuses" Dalits, Adivasis and backward castes. In a conversation moderated by **Sobhana K. Nair**, Amit Ahuja and Mona G. Mehta discuss how these developments compare to the high noon of Mandal mobilisation in the late 1980s and 1990s. Edited excerpts:

Where do the political forces representing 'Mandal issues' stand today? What is the chief cause of their weakening?

Mona G. Mehta: Mandal politics is an inadequate expression; it does not capture the profound changes in Indian society and politics. It was a politics initiated by historically marginalised OBCs (Other Backward Classes) or Bahujan caste groups in the 1980s and 1990s in order to secure a greater share of political and economic power through reservation in the public sector. By every measure, that politics has succeeded in capturing political power in large parts of India. It has transformed the caste profile of State legislatures and Parliament towards greater inclusivity of previously subordinated groups. It has shifted the political discourse towards a universal acceptance of OBC reservations even among those who initially opposed it, such as the upper-caste Hindu Right represented by the BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party). Today, even the BJP Prime Minister is openly projected as an OBC leader.

Rather than identifying a singular cause for the weakening of Mandal politics, it's worth looking at upper-caste Hindu, right-wing reactions against it over the few decades. There are broadly five phases. The first phase was the intense upper-caste hostility to reservation at the societal level. We saw upper-caste youth in urban India even immolating themselves in demand of a rollback of reservation policies. The second was a more concerted political reaction in the form of 'Kamandal' politics, spearheaded by Hindutva upper-caste forces, to oppose Mandal mobilisation in the form of the Ram Janmabhoomi movement. The third was a sort of upper-caste collaboration with neoliberal forces and big capital that led to the shrinking of employment opportunities in the State. It is in this context that the bogey of merit got its most strident expression as an instrument to oppose Mandal politics. The fourth involved upper-caste mobilisation of non-dominant OBC groups, to give them some semblance of self-respect and identity, but without genuine rights and political power. The last is the opposition to the latest demand for a caste census.

The second phase of the caste-based census in Bihar. PTI

Amit Ahuja: The question we need to ask is why things are different today compared to when these forces rose in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Social realities are different. Economic liberalisation has created more opportunities for people from all sections. Politically also it is a different world – a lot of issues such as oppression and the history of discrimination are part of mainstream politics. Second, where does Mandal stand today? The movement did not die. But think about leaders like Karpoori Thakur, Ram Vilas Paswan, Nitish Kumar, Lalu Yadav... there was a lot of mobilisation, energy and charisma there. Those kinds of leaders are not present today. Third, the late 1980s and early 1990s was a moment of serious weakening of the Congress, which gave the Mandal forces a great electoral opportunity. Finally, we've got to also ask ourselves about the movement's relevance today. What is it bringing to the table in terms of ideas and promises? For example, women were never the focus of Mandal politics. In the last Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, had the SP (Samajwadi Party) received the same share of women votes as the BJP did, it would have trounced them. What does Mandal politics have to say to Dalits? How inclusive is it of the other groups?

One of the ways the Mandal parties have tried to regain their hold in the public discourse is the demand for a caste-based census. Is this a reaction to the politics of Hindutva? Will it have the same effect as it did at the peak of the Mandir movement?

> We also have to closely examine the slogan, *Jitni Aabaadi, Utna Haq* (rights in proportion to population). This is shifting the discourse from historical injustices to distribution. It has serious implications, because it comes down to which category you are placed in.
> AMIT AHUJA

MGM: It's not just a reaction, but a smart strategy to counter upper-caste hegemony. It should be seen as part of a larger ongoing historical process of seeking social justice. Its ingenuity goes beyond electoral performance. We should not try to measure its success merely in terms of whether it will bear immediate electoral fruits. The debate on the caste census invites us to really think about the tremendous dynamism, fluidity, but also the persistence of caste in modern Indian society. We can expect it to unleash a newer and dynamic process of social churning and social justice with regards to caste. Whether we will find the voices and leaders to articulate this new context of a larger project of social emancipation remains to be seen.

AA: Whether the the call for caste census will have an impact on the BJP needs to be seen. The demand for a caste census has been around for a long while. But at the end of the day, what is its purpose? I think that's something the opposition parties need to clarify. Is it for reservation in jobs? Because if you look at state jobs, they have been shrinking for a long while. Is it for reservation in the State Assemblies and Parliament? OBCs are well represented here. As an idea, it still holds power because of the employment crisis in India, but what it means has to be clarified. Without a clarification, we won't have a sense of how far the appeal of this idea will go when it comes to the electorate, or be able to answer the question on whether it will be able to dislodge the politics of the BJP. I am not sure for the simple reason that they are really good at mobilising OBCs and understanding the caste grammar. The BJP of L.K. Advani and A.B. Vajpayee wasn't good at it, but the BJP under Narendra Modi has included more OBCs in the party hierarchy and is deploying OBC symbols in electoral campaigns.

The other side of the story is the fact that the BJP has nationalism on its side. If you are thinking of the 2024 electoral campaign, remember that voters make a distinction between national and State elections. So maybe in the Assembly elections, the Mandal idea will be able to counter BJP mobilisation; but in a general election, national issues will dominate. We also have to closely examine the slogan, *Jitni Aabaadi, Utna Haq* (rights in proportion to population). This is shifting the discourse from historical injustices to distribution. It has serious implications, because then it comes down to which category you are placed in, and gives rise to contradictions and conflicts. Can it really be a unifying strategy despite these conflicts?

Does the caste census affect Dalits/ Adivasis differently from the OBCs?

MGM: I don't see it necessarily alienating Dalits and Adivasis, because these groups are already being enumerated. However, the caste census opens up to enumerating Dalits who are not Hindus, such as Dalit Christians and Muslims.

AA: It's not obvious as to why there would be a conflict between other Adivasis and Dalits on one hand, and OBCs on the other. In fact, what it may do is possibly unite the two. For example, take the issue of reservation in the private sector. On their own, Dalits and Adivasis don't have the political clout and the numbers to push for it. If the OBCs were also to back it, it will become difficult politically to resist this call.

MGM: It is very clear it's the upper castes who are feeling threatened.

Is the caste census merely an empty political exercise, or is there a genuine need for it?

AA: There are two sides to this. One, it is important for us to understand where historic disadvantages are still surviving and how they manifest themselves. We also need to understand what is happening within these categories. There are real public policy questions here that the census will be able to answer. It may allow us to direct policies more effectively, towards those who most need state assistance and affirmative action policies. At the same time, yes, the moment you start counting where numbers are going to be linked to distribution, that is going to be a source of conflict. It's a double-edged sword.

MGM: In this age of data, we need the data in order to make effective policies. It is an essential exercise, but the exercise, as Amit rightly pointed out, is a double-edged sword.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The many moods of politicians in the Legislative Assembly

Covering the proceedings of the Assembly is instructive and fun in equal measure

Dennis S. Jesudasan

Even though more than 12 years have passed since I stepped inside the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly for the first time, I still enjoy covering the proceedings of the House. For journalists, the Assembly is among the resourceful places to visit for work for many reasons. It is among the few places where reporters can observe leaders from different political parties at the same time. It is in the Assembly where political leaders, who are accustomed to being greeted and praised, are forced to deal with criticism from other parties in the presence of their own party persons. It is also in the Assembly where we are witness to the oratory skills of leaders. Though politicians are often associated with public speaking, and display this skill especially during election campaigns, only a few of them master the art. There are fewer politicians who can deliver a harangue and keep the attention of the House. But nearly all of them are sincere when they raise the issues of the people. They never hesitate to plead with the Speaker for a few more minutes to talk about the issues in their constituencies.

Journalists can learn a lot from following these debates – how various welfare programmes reach the ground, the challenges in the implementing these programmes, why a one-size-fits-all approach does not work, and why a section of the people oppose what is generally considered progressive. For instance, I learned that a village panchayat did not want to be included in a neighbouring municipal corporation and get urban civic amenities because some of its residents wanted to remain eligible for the 100 days rural employment programme. An electric substation could not be set up in a locality for several years because none of the residents wanted the risk of such a substation in their neighbourhood. There are technical grounds, too, which do not allow for infrastructure. A narrow road to a temple on top of a hill could not be laid because the temple was inside a reserved forest. Electricity could reach one part of a rural area but not another. Railway tracks passed through the second area, and so the permission of the Railways was required. A certain number of cattle is needed in a town/village for establishing a veterinary hospital.

Given the nature of issues discussed, the House is often perceived as a serious, formal space. This is incorrect. In Tamil Nadu, following the death of former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa in 2016, the tension between the legislators of the two Dravidian majors reduced significantly. Despite the formal set up and the rules of the House, we get to see politicians in various moods – they crack jokes, share snacks, make friends, get offended, lose patience, laugh out loud, show off, tease each other and even sing. I was also amused that they plead with the Minister concerned for tickets to matches during the Indian Premier League.

The House is also particular about issues such as punctuality and diction. The day commences at 10 a.m. Let alone unparliamentary language, the fact that the word 'lies' has been replaced with the words 'contrary to the truth' shows how the House is mindful of what enters the Assembly records for the future generations to see.

Legislators talk to each other irrespective of their political ideologies. Their accents may vary and their ideologies may differ, but they fall in line with resolutions on Tamil Nadu's share in inter-State river disputes, the welfare of ethnic Tamils in Sri Lanka, or the Union government's decisions affecting the State. There is a celebratory air when a resolution is adopted unanimously in the House. The full-throated 'Aam' (Yes) of the legislators during a voice vote while adopting a resolution sometimes reverberates outside the Assembly Hall. That one word shows how the MLAs of Tamil Nadu speak out in one voice whenever the interests of the State are at stake.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Small steps and a giant leap

Newborn babies rest in the special newborn care unit at Mata Kaushalya Hospital on April 11 in Patiala. The latest State of World Population Report has said India will surpass China to become the most populous country in the world in the middle of this year. Getty Images

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 21, 1973

When CIA trained Tibetan guerrillas

New York, April 20: A book just released here says that the United States Central Intelligence Agency set up a secret base in the snowy Colorado Rockies to train Tibetan guerrillas in mountain warfare in the late 1960s, when there was a rebellion in Tibet against the Chinese Government. Relations between the U.S. and the Peking Governments were bitter then, and the CIA move was apparently intended to thwart the Chinese from gaining control of Tibet. The author of the book is Mr. David Wise, former chief of bureau of the New York Herald-Tribune at Washington. According to Mr. Wise, the CIA began training the Tibetans, said to have been recruited in India in 1958, in a deserted American Army camp near Leadville in Colorado. The operation continued till the early period of the Kennedy Administration. The Colorado terrain was chosen because of the snow and rocks. But Mr. Wise said this very setting caused the secret operation to become public.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO APRIL 21, 1923

Nellore

Nellore, April 19: The temporary Subordinate Judges Court which has been long here is to be confined and sent on to Kavali. The Additional Subordinate Judges Court is to be abolished. The Additional District Munsif's Court is decided to be shifted to Atmakur, 40 miles off Nellore whereto there is no train communication. At present there is motor bus service.

From Page One

Court rejects Rahul's plea against conviction

Further, the court noted the impact of Mr. Gandhi's own role in public life. "The appellant was not an ordinary person and was a sitting MP, connected with public life. Any word spoken by the appellant would have a large impact in the mind of the common public," it said.

The court also rejected Mr. Gandhi's contention that the trial was "harsh and unfair" and conducted "in haste", and held that a high standard of morality was expected from a person of Mr. Gandhi's stature.

The judge also quoted the Supreme Court as saying that decisions to pause conviction should be exercised with caution and "not in a casual and mechanical manner... that will shake public confidence in the judiciary."

Victory of judiciary, says BJP

The BJP hailed the court order as a "victory" of the judiciary and the people. BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra said the court's decision is "a blow" to the arrogance of the Gandhi family, "especially Rahul Gandhi." "It's a slap on Gandhi family's arrogance...Gandhi family had thought that they can get away after abusing backward classes. But that did not happen," Mr. Patra said.

The court's decision proves that law is equal for everyone, he said at a press conference in Delhi.

(with PTI inputs)

Five soldiers killed in attack on Army vehicle

Eyewitnesses said the vehicle was on fire from all sides and gutted completely in the attack. A seriously injured soldier has been evacuated to the Army Hospital at Rajouri. "The jawan is under treatment," the Army said. A major anti-militancy operation has been launched in the area, which has thick forests. "Operations are in progress to locate the perpetrators," the Army said.

Army Chief General Manoj Pande briefed Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh about the attack in New Delhi, officials said. "In this tragic hour, my thoughts are with the bereaved families," Mr. Singh said, in a tweet. The Army's 16 Corps, based in Nagrota, said the deceased soldiers are: Havildar Mandeep Singh, Lance Naik Debashish Baswal, Lance Naik Kulwant Singh, Sepoy Harkrishan Singh and Sepoy Sewak Singh. "The Whitenight corps stand in solidarity with the bereaved families," it said in a tweet.

'Grenade fragments'

Sources said officials saw bullet marks on the vehicle and also recovered fragments of grenades confirming it was a terror attack.

Political parties condemned the attack. In a tweet, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "Strongly condemn the terror attack on an Army vehicle in Poonch District. Our deepest condolences to the families of 5 Rashtriya Rifle bravehearts. We are united against terrorism," he said.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said the news of the martyrdom of the five soldiers in the terrorist attack is very saddening.

(With PTI inputs)

SC's ruling of 2018 was a 'rainbow of hope'

By decriminalising homosexuality, the court says it contemplated that 'stable, marriage-like relationships' could exist between same-sex persons who do not treat their bond as 'chance encounters..... That for them it is not just a physical relationship, but something like a stable emotional relationship'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on Thursday said the moment the Supreme Court gave a "rainbow of hope" to the LGBTQIA+ community by decriminalising homosexuality in 2018, it had implicitly contemplated that "stable, marriage-like relationships" could exist between same-sex persons who do not treat their bond as "chance encounters".

"The moment we said homosexuality is no longer an offence under Section 377 [of the Indian Penal Code], we necessarily contemplated that there could be a stable, marriage-like relationship between two persons who do not treat these as chance encounters but as something more than that... That for them it is not just a physical relationship, but something like a stable emotional relationship," Chief Justice Chandrachud observed during the third day of the Constitution Bench hearing of petitions seeking legal recognition of same-sex marriages.

The government had argued in an affidavit that the court had only decriminalised sexual intercourse between same-sex persons in its 2018 judgment in the *Navtej Singh Johar* case, and not legitimised this "conduct". The court, while decriminalising homosexuality, had never accepted same-sex marriage as part of the fundamental right to life and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution. The petitioners have sought a broader interpretation of the Special Marriage Act of 1954 by making it gender-neutral and read the term 'spouses' into the heterosexual usages of 'man' and 'woman' in the law.

> In the last 69 years, our law has evolved to recognise the fact when you decriminalise homosexuality, you also realise that these are not just one-off relationships. That these are also comprehensive and stable relationships
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

Chief Justice Chandrachud said Parliament's intention behind introducing the 1954 Act was to open up an avenue for people who were not falling back or relying on the diktats of their respective personal laws to get married.

Justice S. Ravindra Bhat described the 1954 Act as an "all-enfolding legislation". "There was also a factor of addressing endogamy, which we cannot ignore," Justice Bhat said.

"In the last 69 years, our law has evolved to recognise the fact when you decriminalise homosexuality, you also realise that these are not just one-off relationships. That these are also comprehensive and stable relationships. Therefore, by decriminalising homosexuality, we have not just recognised fleeting relationships between consenting adults of the same gender, we have also recognised implicitly the fact that people who are of the same sex would be in stable relationships," Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

Justice Bhat indicated that the "concept" of marriage was not cast in stone.

The court's remarks serve as a counter to the arguments of the government that the existing concept of marriage as a heterosexual institution has the sanctity of law and religion. The Centre has warned that legal recognition of same sex marriage would "seriously affect the interests of every citizen".

"The concept of marriage transcends contemporary understanding, used in a constitutional sense, marriage provides a framework, and the framework is evolving and not cast in stone," Justice Bhat observed.

However, the court said it has to examine whether it was making policy choices, which was for the legislature to make, and whether it was doing something fundamentally contrary to the scheme of the 1954 Act.

Aadhaar authentication for private use proposed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A draft notification proposing the use of "voluntary" Aadhaar authentication by non-government entities was released on April 20.

The draft Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Amendment Rules, 2023 would allow Aadhaar authentication for 'promoting ease of living for residents and enabling better access to services.'

The existing 2020 Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance Rules already allows the government departments to undertake Aadhaar authentication.

A Government official said that one likely use case for voluntary private sector-led authentication would be in the hospitality sector, where ID requirements when checking into hotels could instead be done through Aadhaar.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto to attend SCO meeting in India next month

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Thursday announced that Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari would travel to India in May to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting, a development that could provide an opportunity to break the ice between the two neighbours.

"Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will be leading the Pakistan delegation to the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers [CFM] being held on May 4 and 5, 2023, in Goa, India," Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahrah Baloch announced at a weekly media briefing here, ending weeks-long speculation if he would attend the conference in person amid major differences between the two neighbours.

She said the Foreign Minister would be attending the meeting as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar had invited him to attend the SCO meet.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

'Commitment to SCO'

"Our participation in the meeting reflects Pakistan's commitment to the SCO Charter and processes and the importance that Pakistan accords to the region in its foreign policy priorities," Ms. Baloch said.

It would be the highest-level visit to India by any Pakistani leader in recent years and a possible opportunity to break the ice between the two nations.

The ties between India and Pakistan came under severe strain after India's warplanes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist training camp in Pakistan's Balakot in February 2019 in response to the Pulwama terror attack.

Deterioration of ties

The relations further deteriorated after India announced the dilution of Article 370 of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019.

India has been maintaining that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan while insisting that the onus is on Islamabad to create an environment free of terror and hostility for such an engagement.

Then Pakistani Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar visited India in 2011.

In May 2014, then Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif visited India to attend Prime Minister Narendra Modi's swearing-in.

SC slams sections of Special Marriage Act requiring prior notice

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

'The very object of the Special Marriage Act is to protect couples. But notice exposes couples to invasion by society'

The Supreme Court on Thursday said provisions of the Special Marriage Act which mandate a 30-day notice of intent to marry is steeped in patriarchy and expose vulnerable couples to an "invasion" by society.

"The very object of the Special Marriage Act is to protect couples. But these provisions lay them open to invasion by society, by District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police," Chief Justice Chandrachud observed orally.

The Bench, including Justices S.K. Kaul, S. Ravindra Bhat, Hima Kohli and P.S. Narasimha, are hearing petitions to legally validate same-sex marriages by allowing them to be conducted under the Special Marriage Act of 1954.

Senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and advocate Shadan Farasat said the mandate of prior and open notice of the intent to marry was anathema to privacy, dignity and personal autonomy and choice.

Senior advocate Raju Ramachandran said these provisions were "retrograde and obnoxious". He said how one of the provisions required fresh notice of intent to be put up in the public domain if the marriage was not solemnised within three months. In a separate portion of the day-hearing, Chief Justice Chandrachud referred to how domestic abuse in heterosexual marriages could have a psychological impact on children. The government had conveyed its anxiety about the psychological impact living with gay or lesbian parents would have on children.

IAF to join multilateral exercise in Greece

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will be participating in Exercise INIOCHOS-23, a multi-national air exercise hosted by the Greece Air Force from April 24 to May 4. This will be the third exercise that the IAF will be taking part simultaneously. The Exercise Cope India with the U.S. is under way at Kalaikunda and four Rafale fighters are taking part in multilateral exercise Orion hosted by France.

The exercise will be conducted at the Andravida Air Base in Greece and the IAF will be participating with four Su-30 MKI and two C-17 aircraft.

"The objective of the exercise is to enhance international cooperation, synergy and interoperability amongst the participating Air Forces," the IAF said in a statement. The exercise will be conducted in a realistic combat scenario involving multiple types of air and surface assets and it will also enable the participating contingents to engage in professional interactions, providing valuable insight into each other's best practices.

SCO members must pool resources, expertise on disaster resilience: Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has called upon the nations of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) to adopt a collective approach to disaster resilience by pooling resources and expertise and avoiding the duplication of efforts.

He was chairing a meeting on the prevention and elimination of emergency situations on Thursday, addressing the heads of department of SCO member states. India assumed the presidency of the SCO in 2022. The bloc comprises eight member states: China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Pakistan attended the meeting virtually.

Mr. Shah said that the SCO would probably be the largest regional organisation in the world, representing 40% of the global population, 25% of the global GDP and 22% of the world's total land area.

India believes that no hazard is small or big, and it does not leave anyone behind, Mr. Shah said, adding that India now has more accurate and timely early warning systems for drought, floods, lightning, heat waves, cold waves and cyclones. "The forecast not only warns us about the disaster but also predicts the potential impact it is likely to cause. At the time of a natural disaster, it is of great importance how quickly the relief reaches the affected area," he said.

Team work: Amit Shah chairs a meeting of the heads of departments of SCO member states in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

Noting that the India-led Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) has 39 members from across the world, he said that the Tsunami Early Warning System for the Indian Ocean Rim countries established by the Indian National Centre for Oceanic Information Services serves not just India but nearly two dozen other countries.

India has organised two knowledge-sharing workshops for SCO members on mitigating the impacts of earthquakes and floods. The Minister identified five major areas for the SCO to work on: confidence-building efforts in Asia, collective responsibility approach, expanding cooperation in communication and information sharing, identification of priority areas, and the use of newly developed technology in disaster resilience capacity building.

Govt. plans 100 'eat right' food streets across India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Health Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has asked States and Union Territories to develop 100 food streets in 100 districts across the country. The aim of this project is to encourage safe and healthy practices to reduce food-borne illnesses and improve overall health outcomes, the Health Ministry said.

In a letter to States, Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan and Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Manoj Joshi said that easy access to safe and hygienic food is vital for the good health of citizens.

The communication further said that safe food practices would not only boost the "eat right campaign" and food safety but also improve the hygiene credibility of local food businesses.

Financial assistance of ₹1 crore per food street/district will be given to States and Union Territories.

The project envisages 100 such food streets in 100 districts across the country.

Faith in children's vaccines has gone up in India, says UNICEF

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Only China, India, and Mexico, that is three out of the 55 countries studied for popular perception of the importance of vaccines for children, showed improvement as per data collected by The Vaccine Confidence Project (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and published by UNICEF on Thursday.

This is when vaccine confidence marks a decline in over a third of the studied countries, including the Republic of Korea, Papua New Guinea, Ghana, Senegal, and Japan after the start of the pandemic.

Vaccine hesitancy

The report warns of the growing threat of vaccine hesitancy due to factors such as misleading information and declining trust in vaccine efficacy.

UNICEF India today released the agency's global flagship report 'The State of the World's Children 2023: For Every Child, Vaccination,' highlighting the significance of childhood immunisation.

Across the world, 67 million children missed out on vaccinations from 2019 to 2021.

The decline in vaccine confidence globally comes amid the largest sustained backslide in childhood immunisation in 30 years, fuelled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic interrupted childhood vaccination almost everywhere, especially due to intense demands on health systems, the diversion of immunisation resources to COVID-19 vaccination, health worker shortages and stay-at-home measures.

The report said a total of 67 million children missed out on vaccinations between 2019 and 2021, with vaccination coverage levels decreasing in 112 countries.

HC calls for an end to videos on Aaradhya Bachchan

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday ordered several websites to immediately stop disseminating or publishing certain objectionable videos of Aaradhya Bachchan, daughter of actors Abhishek Bachchan and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, which were circulating fake news about the 11-year-old's health.

Justice C. Hari Shankar said that "Every child is entitled to be treated with honour and respect whether the child is of a celebrity or a commoner. Dissemination of misleading information regarding the mental and physical health of a child is completely intolerable."

In the suit filed by Ms. Aaradhya, through her father, it was stated that though she is a "healthy school-going child", certain miscreants, clearly for the sake of publicity, have been circulating videos on YouTube stating that she was "critically ill". One of the videos even claimed that Ms. Aaradhya, the granddaughter of Amitabh Bachchan, was no more, the suit stated.

Govt. has failed to grant guarantee to MSP: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Narendra Modi government has failed to keep its promise to grant legal guarantee to MSP on farm produce, the Congress said on Thursday, citing dilution of terms of reference for the committee constituted for this purpose.

Addressing a press conference, senior Congress leader and former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda said the government had repeatedly failed the farmers. They promised doubling of farm income by 2022; but instead, two years after this deadline, the farmers were in greater debt with it rising from ₹9.6 lakh crore in 2014 to ₹23.44 lakh crore now, he added.

"The government's intentions to provide legal guarantee to MSP are doubtful. Had they wanted to give legal sanctity to MSP, they could have given it at the first instance and announced it," he said.

67 accused in Naroda village massacre case acquitted

Those acquitted by the special trial court in the 2002 case include the former Gujarat Minister Maya Kodnani, Bajrang Dal leader Babu Bajrangi and former VHP leader Jaidip Patel

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

A special trial court on Thursday acquitted all 67 accused, including former Gujarat Minister Maya Kodnani, Bajrang Dal leader Babu Bajrangi and former VHP leader Jaidip Patel, in the Naroda *Gam* (village) massacre case of 2002 riots, in which 11 members of the minority community were killed by the rioters.

A total of 86 accused were named in the first information report (FIR) and the chargesheet, and 18 of them died during the pendency of trial, while one was discharged, leaving 67 to face the protracted trial that had begun way back in 2009. The verdict came more than 21 years after the massacre.

On Thursday, 65 of the accused were present in the courtroom. The accused were charged with murder, rioting, unlawful assembly, criminal conspiracy and others.

Former Gujarat Minister Maya Kodnani after getting acquitted in Ahmedabad on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

Principal Sessions Judge S.K. Baxi delivered the verdict. The trial was completed on April 5. As soon as the court pronounced the order, relatives and supporters of the accused chanted "Jai Shri Ram" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai", hailing the verdict.

The Naroda village case was among the nine probed by the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by former CBI Director R.K. Raghavan and the trial was conducted in a special designated court.

During the protracted trial, the SIT had examined 187 witnesses, including victims and their relatives, doctors and police.

The massacre was carried out on February 28, 2002, when 11 persons of a minority community were burnt to death in a Muslim neighbourhood in the Naroda area of Ahmedabad. After the killings of pilgrims on the Sabarmati express train at the Godhra railway station, large-scale communal riots had broken out engulfing parts of Gujarat.

There were some common accused in this case and another case, Naroda Patiya, in which 97 Muslims were killed. In the Naroda Patiya case, the trial court had convicted Ms. Kodnani, Mr. Bajrangi and four others, who were accused in both cases. The Gujarat High Court subsequently acquitted Ms. Kodnani, who was sentenced to life imprisonment until death.

In 2018, during the trial in Naroda village case, the then BJP president Amit Shah had deposed in the court. He had endorsed Ms. Kodnani's contention that she was not present at the "scene of crime" as she was at the Legislative Assembly.

Congress to appeal against verdict rejecting Rahul's plea for stay on conviction

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress will file an appeal against the sessions court's judgment rejecting former Congress president Rahul Gandhi's application for a stay on his conviction in a criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark, party spokesperson and senior Supreme Court lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi said.

He called the judgment by Additional Sessions Judge R.P. Mogera "unfortunate" and "unsustainable", and said Mr. Gandhi would continue to speak fearlessly in the court of people. The conviction had been upheld contrary to all basic and elementary principles of law, he added.

"The judgment will be challenged in accordance with law in the near future in a High Court. We are confident that superior courts with constitutional power of judicial review, namely High Court and the Supreme Court, have the power and will set right the legal errors," Mr. Singhvi said at a press conference.

Rahul Gandhi

He said Mr. Gandhi's "one-line remark" in his 2019 speech delivered in Kolar, Karnataka, had been "distorted" beyond recognition to "serve the narrow ends of motivated complainants".

Political animosity

"The Bharatiya Janata Party's speed and zeal to act after the original order depicts that they are motivated by political animosity. Their misleading statements on the OBC community backfired on them. And the whole community and India saw the BJP misusing and encashing on the OBC community for narrow and cheap political gains," Mr. Singhvi added.

"The voice of Rahul Gandhi is not to be silenced in the manner the BJP thinks it can do. The BJP has been, in a sense, from Mr. [Narendra] Modi downwards to the government to the ruling party, captured in a fear psychosis," Mr. Singhvi said.

Criticising the judgment, Mr. Singhvi said the first seven or eight pages were quotations from judgments and were selectively underlined in respect to offences which had nothing to do with the offence in this case or directly support the present case.

At three places in the judgment, Mr. Singhvi said there were direct reference to Prime Minister Modi with the judge calling it an outrageous case because a sitting Prime Minister had been defamed.

Gautam Adani meets NCP supremo Sharad Pawar

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Amid the Opposition's demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the Adani-Hindenburg issue, industrialist Gautam Adani on Thursday met Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) supremo Sharad Pawar at the latter's Silver Oak residence in Mumbai.

The meeting came days after the NCP patriarch came out in support of the Adani group and criticised the narrative around the U.S. short-selling firm Hindenburg Research's report on the conglomerate.

'No discrimination against students of any region in Australia'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Australian government does not discriminate against students of any region willing to pursue courses in academic institutions in the country, the High Commission of Australia said on Thursday.

The response came against the backdrop of reports that several Australian universities have banned students from Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan after a spate of fraudulent applications from these States.

"Australian universities have the authority to make their own decisions on recruitment or admission, which may affect their intake from certain regions. The Australian High Commission is not aware of any institution that currently restricts access for students from these regions," a spokesperson from the Australian High Commission said.

Education is an important component of India-Australia relations and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese had announced a deal on education with India during his March visit, which included States such as Gujarat and Delhi.

Buddha's teachings can solve most contemporary global problems: PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that the world was facing the most challenging times of the century due to war, economic crisis, terrorism and climate change, and all these contemporary global challenges can be addressed through the teachings of the Buddha.

Inaugurating the first Global Buddhist Summit here, Mr. Modi said the Buddha preached abandoning war, defeat and victory for eternal peace.

A better and stable world could be achieved only by considering the nations dealing with a scarcity of resources. "It is the need of the hour that priority of every person and nation should be the interest of the world, along with the interest of the country," Mr. Modi said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the Global Buddhist Summit, 2023 in New Delhi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Highlighting the issue of climate change, he observed that each person was affecting the earth in one way or the other, be it with lifestyle, eating or travelling habits.

"The path of Buddha is the path of the future and the path of sustainability. Had the world followed Buddha's teachings, it would not have faced the problem of climate change," Mr. Modi said.

The Prime Minister gave the example of Mission LiFE, an initiative by India which, he said, was influenced by the inspirations of Buddha.

The inspiration behind India achieving the recent global landmarks in various sectors was the Buddha, the Prime Minister added.

HC cannot amend or alter lease deed, says SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has observed in a judgment that the Madhya Pradesh High Court cannot use its writ jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution to alter or amend a lease deed which has to be compulsorily registered under Section 17 of the Registration Act of 1908.

Under Section 17, it is mandatory to register lease deeds for renting an immoveable property for a period over a year. The judgment was based on an appeal filed by the Gwalior Development Authority.

NHRC notice to U.P., AMU on dog attack

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Uttar Pradesh government, the Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University and the city's Municipal Commissioner over a man being mauled to death by stray dogs inside the varsity campus, officials said on Thursday.

Safdar Ali (65), a resident of a locality adjoining the campus, was out on a morning walk in a garden at Sir Syed Museum when the dogs attacked him on Sunday. The NHRC, in a statement, observed that "there is a need to review the prevailing safeguards" as this is not a problem of any one State or Union Territory, and the "situation is grim and alarming".

Taking *suo motu* cognisance of a media report on the matter, the NHRC has sought a detailed report within six weeks, the statement said.

The State government has been asked if any relief has been given to the next of kin of the deceased, it said.

CUET-PG to be held from June 5 to June 12, says NTA

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Common University Entrance Test-PG (CUET-PG) for admission to post-graduate programmes in universities across the country will be conducted from June 5 to June 12, the National Testing Agency announced on Thursday.

Candidates can apply for the CUET-PG exam till May 5.

The deadline for the application earlier was April 19.

Foreign universities are hubs of 'anti-Bharat activities': Dhankhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Thursday that some foreign universities double up as centres of subversive "anti-Bharat activities" and are out to "demolish our civilisational ethos and sully and muddy our growth".

Mr. Dhankhar told a conference, attended by top civil servants of the country, that "disturbing insights in the hidden agenda of the so-called elites in India is alarming" and "unfortunately it is getting reflected in our constitutional institution working".

"It is the responsibility of Parliament to safeguard India's national sovereignty and cultural integrity from any kinds of threats, internally or externally," Mr. Dhankhar said.

Mr. Dhankhar said some bureaucrats at the State level wield more power than politicians, and called for introspection and counselling.

The V-P said that Parliament alone is "in-charge of legislation" and competent to enforce it.

"Legislation is the exclusive preserve of Parliament, the most authentic reflector of the will of the people at large," he added.

Director, of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Bikaner
Ref. No. Shivira-Sec/Accounts/D-2/28011/2022-23 Date: 18.04.2023
Notice Inviting Bid for bicycles
Bids for Complete Black Color Ladies bicycles of procurement are invited from interested bidders upto date 09-05-2023 time 5:00 p.m. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state and www.education.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 133,0000000 (One hundred thirty three crores.)
UBN : EDU2324GLOB00006
(Gaurav Agarwal)
I.A.S.
Director,
Secondary Education Rajasthan, Bikaner.
DIPR/C/5730

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking)
UNIT-VIII, BHUBANESWAR
e-mail: theocclt d@odishaconstruction.com
GSTIN - 21AAACO2571K2ZM
e-Procurement Notice No. 04 /OCCL/2023-24 (on-line)
Type of Work :- Supply of Cement (PSC/OPC) to Project sites of OCCL in different districts of Odisha.
No of Bids : - 02 Nos.
Period of Supply : - 10.05.2023 to 31.10.2023.

Bid Identification No.	Type of Cement	Cost of Bid Document (Non-refundable, including GST) (through on-line transfer) (in Rs.)	Availability of Bid Documents (On-line)	Submission of Tender (On-line)
OCC-Monitoring / 01/2023-24	PSC	2,360/-	21.04.2023, 03.30 P.M. to 01.05.2023, 1.30 P.M.	21.04.2023, 03.30 P.M. to 01.05.2023, 1.30 P.M.
OCC-Monitoring / 02/2023-24	OPC	2,360/-	21.04.2023, 03.30 P.M. to 01.05.2023, 1.30 P.M.	21.04.2023, 03.30 P.M. to 01.05.2023, 1.30 P.M.

Procurement Officer - **Managing Director, OCC Ltd., Bhubaneswar**
Date of opening of the Technical Bid: **01.05.2023, 03.30 P.M.**
Further detail can be seen from the Govt. website (**www.tendersodisha.gov.in**)
Managing Director
CAD-248 OIPR-34120/11/0007/2324

ODISHA STATE MEDICAL CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking)
(Assuring Quality, Saving Lives)
Phone No.: (0674) 2380608,
Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ,
E-mail: rec.osmcl@nic.in
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW
Advt. No.01/OSMCL/2023 Date : 20.04.2023
Walk in interview will be conducted as scheduled below for engagement of following contractual position in Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd. with fixed monthly remuneration. The aforesaid position is purely temporary.

Name of the Post	Remuneration (Monthly)	Date & Time of Registration / Interview
Audit Officer	44900/-	25.04.2023, 10:30 AM

Interested candidate can log on **www.osmcl.nic.in** , for details eligibility criteria, ToR, etc. Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria may appear for registration followed by interview on the date as mentioned against the above position along with the filled application form & requisite documents. Registration time will be fixed as mentioned above. No application will be received after scheduled date & timing of registration.
VENUE: **Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd, Unit-3, Convent Square, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha.**
Sd/-
Managing Director, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd
Regd. Office : Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Bhubaneswar – 751001, Odisha
CAD-258 OIPR-10112/11/0003/2324

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C), IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, JANPATH, BHUBANESWAR - 751022
Tender Call Notice No. IDCO/H.O./P&C/EST/E-1490/04/2021/ 11767 , dated : 18/04/23
NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT
1. Name of the Work : Construction of Bitumen road from Aluminium Park to Kangula I/A Road from (Ch-0/000.00 to ch-0/888.00) along the right side (from AAP to Smelter Plant) of Molten Metal Road.
2. Estimated Cost : Rs.60.98 lakh (Approx.)
3. Period of Completion : 02 (Two) Calendar Months.
4. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid ID/Tender reference No.	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Bhubaneswar.	Bid ID/Tender Reference No. P&C/EST/E-06/2023-24	26.04.2023 at 17.00 Hrs.	12.05.2023 up to 17.00 Hrs.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and Corrigendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and **www.idco.in.**
CAD-250 **Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar**
OIPR-14003/11/0016/2324

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OMC, a Gold category and largest State PSU in Mining Sector in the Country, undertakes exploration, mining and trading of iron, chrome & bauxite ores. Inspired by the vision to emerge as the market leader and to play a catalytic role in the growth of industrialization, OMC caters to the requirements of mineral based industries. The Corporation has achieved an annual turnover of Rs.14,334 crores in the FY 2022 -23 (Provisional).
The Corporation invites application from dynamic & competent professionals for the following post.
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Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Scale of Pay (in Rs.)	Initial Basic Pay (in Rs.)	Total Post	Category	Age as on 31.03.2023
1	General Manager (Civil), E-7 Grade	1,27,100/- to 2,16,300/-	1,38,800/-	01	UR	Not above 55 years

Interested eligible candidates are advised to download the application format from OMC website: **http://omcltd.in** and submit the same duly filled in & signed along with attested copies of Certificates, Mark sheets, Experience Certificates etc. in support of their eligibility by **Speed Post/Courier** in a cover superscribed "APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF_____" so as to reach the **General Manager (P&A),** Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd., OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001 by **18.05.2023** positively. Applications received after the last date due to delay in **postal/courier** or any other reason shall not be entertained and will be rejected.
OMC Management reserves the right to cancel, amend or alter the above advertisement without assigning any reason thereof.
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(A GOLD CATEGORY STATE PSU)

A 'big cat' campaign that went wrong

The campaign by Pratibha Vasantrao Patil at Arabavi in Belagavi district in 1989 goes down in history as one of the most unique ones. The Independent candidate brought a live tiger to her campaign and kept it for two weeks. She had sought and obtained tiger as her poll symbol, since her father V.L. Patil was known as the "Tiger of Raibag" for his political clout.

Pratibha Patil contacted a Delhi-based circus to loan her a tiger. The tiger was sent along with a handling crew of six members and she kept it in a cage atop a van and took it to her rallies. Though the tiger attracted huge crowds in the villages, it did not bring many votes to Pratibha Patil. She had to contend with the third place with 16,976 votes. Use of animals in campaign is no longer allowed.

Margin call

The tables show the highest and lowest victory margins in the past three Karnataka State elections. R. Akhanda Srinivasamurthy of the Congress won by a margin of 64.6% in 2018 - the highest in the past three polls. With a razor thin margin of 0.02%, JD(S) candidate Dinakar Keshav Shetty won in the 2008 elections - the lowest victory margin in the last three years

HIGHEST MARGIN

Year	Candidate	Party	Seat	Margin
2018	R. Akhanda Srinivasamurthy	Cong.	Pulakeshinagar	64.6%
2013	Balachandra Jarkiholi	BJP	Arabhavi	51.8%
2008	S.A. Ravindranath	BJP	Davanagere North	51.3%

LOWEST MARGIN

Year	Candidate	Party	Seat	Margin
2008	Dinakar Keshav Shetty	JD(S)	Kumta	0.02%
2008	Doddappagouda Shivalingappagoud Patil Naribol	BJP	Jevargi	0.1%
2013	Bheemanaik LBP	JD(S)	Hagaribommanahalli	0.1%

COMPILED BY: THANMAYA PRAKASH | SOURCE: LOK DABHA

Will Deshpande continue his winning streak?

Senior Congress leader and former Minister R.V. Deshpande is the only candidate contesting the Karnataka Assembly election for entering the House for a record ninth time. Earlier, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge had entered the Assembly nine times without a break between 1972 and 2008.

When they [BJP] have not left Rahul Gandhi alone, will they spare me? But nothing can make me surrender...

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR
KPCC President

H.D. Deve Gowda

Age cannot wither his campaign enthusiasm

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, who will soon turn 90, is among the star campaigners of the Janata Dal(S) for the upcoming Assembly election in Karnataka.

Along with other members of his family – his third son and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, his second son and former Minister H.D. Revanna, his wife Bhavani Revanna and their two children – Mr. Gowda campaigned in Hassan in the southern part of the State on Thursday.

This was a show of unity since party workers had been divided over the selection of a candidate for the Hassan seat for the past few weeks. H.P. Swaroop, the party candidate, and Ms. Bhavani Revanna, who was a strong contender for party ticket, campaigned together to indicate that all was finally well.

The differences within the family over who had to be given ticket had pitted the family of Mr. Revanna against Mr. Kumaraswamy, but the matter was resolved with the intervention of the party patriarch.

Ms. Bhavani Revanna, in her address to the public, reiterated that she had always treated Mr. Swaroop as one of her sons. "We will win all seven seats in Hassan district, and that will be our gift to Mr. Deve Gowda on his next birthday," she said.

'Kingmaker' JD(S) goes all out to hold on to its Old Mysore realm

The regional party has had to deal with an eroding base and family feuds, but still believes it can play a key role in the State's politics, banking on Muslim outreach and H.D. Kumaraswamy's appeal

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Amid boisterous Congress moves and persistent BJP efforts to sink roots in the Old Mysore region of southern Karnataka, the Janata Dal(S) – a two-time "kingmaker" over the past two decades – will be fighting the Assembly election to retain its identity and relevance in State politics.

While the party assessed its 2018 performance as below par despite a perceived Vokkaliga consolidation against the then Congress Chief Minister, Siddaramaiah, the JD (S) is going to the polls without any major undercurrents, indicating a consolidation of the dominant land-owning community from which it draws strength. Neither has the party been able to widen its footprint beyond this region.

A popular voice: JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy addressing a roadshow ahead of filing his nominations in Channapatna. ANI

Sub-regional bastion

In 2018, when it formed a government led by H.D. Kumaraswamy in alliance with the Congress, the JD (S) won 30 of its 37 seats, or about 79% of its total seats, from the Old Mysore region. It won 50% of the seats in the 10 Vokkaliga-dominated districts (outside Bengaluru city). This was despite its total vote share coming down by about 2% from the 2013 election figure, which the party attributed to a Muslim consolidation in favour of the Congress after Rahul Gandhi called the JD(S) the "B team" of the BJP. The JD (S)'s best performance came in 2004, when it won 58 seats in 2004, forging an alliance first with the Congress and later the BJP to form governments.

The political climate has changed since 2019. D.K. Shivakumar, a Vokkaliga with chief ministerial ambitions, has been appointed Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president, and is perceived to be a threat against any consolidation of his community in favour of the JD (S).

The BJP is making serious inroads into the Old Mysore region. Though its multiple Vokkaliga outreach efforts have backfired in recent months, political observers believe that the arrival of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his promise of development has resonated with the community. As a result, the traditional two-cornered fight between the JD (S) and the Congress in Vokkaliga-dominated districts can turn into triangular fights in some constituencies.

Riding on an anti-Siddaramaiah wave, the JD(S) blanked out its traditional rival, the Congress, in 2018, with resounding victories in Mandya and Hassan districts where it won 13 of the 14 seats.

However, it may not be able to repeat the feat this time. In Hassan, the party's first family's home district, the JD(S) supremo's elder daughter-in-law took her demand for ticket public. Though the conflict has been resolved, it embarrassed the party, which already carries the tag of being a "family party".

Lost legislators

The JD(S) is entering the electoral fray without nine of the legislators elected in 2018. While three went over to the BJP in "Operation Kamala" and two died, the party failed to retain those seats in subsequent byelections. In recent weeks, four MLAs have quit the party, with three going to the Congress and the other to the BJP.

Since 2018, the JD(S) has only won one byelection in the State. It lost the crucial Mandya Lok Sabha seat in a high-voltage battle in 2019 to Independent candidate Sumalatha Ambareesh, who has now declared support to the BJP.

Though the odds are stacked against it, the JD(S) got off to an early start by announcing candidates for 93 seats nearly four months before the election was announced. The party was bolstered by the good response in over 90 constituencies through which its ambitious Pancharatna Yatra passed.

Muslim outreach

The JD(S) has been consciously working to send positive signals to the Muslim community, with C.M. Ibrahim being made the party State president. Besides, Mr. Kumaraswamy has been reaching out to religious leaders, seeking their support.

The yatra showed that Mr. Kumaraswamy's appeal among the voters has remained intact, though turnout in his previous campaign did not necessarily convert into votes for the party.

The JD(S) believes that its pro-farmer identity still resonates with the Vokkaligas, and hopes that the nearly ₹24,000-crore farm loan waiver scheme it implemented in 2018-19 still stands the party in good stead.

While H.D. Deve Gowda – party supremo and undisputed Vokkaliga leader – is unlikely to take an active part in electioneering, Mr. Kumaraswamy's accessibility and personal approach remain popular.

'My party and father strongly believe in politics of inclusion'

Yediyurappa's son says he will follow his father's path by being in good terms with Muslims and Christians and taking everybody along

INTERVIEW

B.Y. Vijayendra

Sathish G.T.

For B.Y. Vijayendra, this is his first election as a candidate. However, being the son of former Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and State vice-president of the BJP, election campaigns are not new to him. He took on the task of managing crucial byelections in the K.R. Pet and Sira Assembly constituencies in 2020 and succeeded in ensuring victory. The 47-year-old Vijayendra is contesting in the Shikaripur constituency, which his father has represented eight times since 1983. When he goes for campaigning, a section of workers raise slogans referring to him as the "future Chief Minister." Here are excerpts from an interview:

Why did you choose Shikaripur, which is your father's long-held seat and therefore 'safe'?

It was not my choice. Of course, my father declared my name for the constituency. But it was the choice of my senior leaders and workers in the party in Shikaripur. My father also felt that since the people of our constituency have blessed us for the past 40 years, it is our duty to serve them.

If you were given a choice between Varuna, where former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is contesting, and Shikaripur, which one would you have chosen?

The question does not arise now. I always wanted to fight from the Old Mysore region. It is not about me winning a seat there. But my contest in that region would have added a few more seats to the party. That was the feeling of some MLAs and senior leaders. But I am happy today.

There are many Muslim women in your processions. But there are some leaders in BJP who openly say they do not want votes of Muslims. How do you respond?

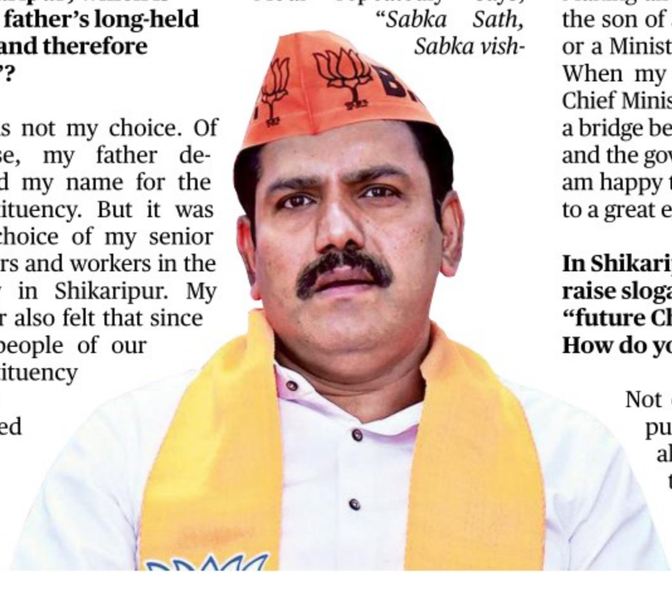
My view is not different from that of the party. Prime Minister Narendra Modi repeatedly says, "*Sabka Sath, Sabka vishwas, sabka prayaas*." My father also believes in it. In 2008, ahead of the Assembly election, he announced that a person from the minority community would be a Minister. He appointed Mumtaz Ali Khan as Minister. He treats minorities as our brothers. He has sanctioned funds for mosques. My father has always been on good terms with Muslims and Christians. My resolution is to tread the path of my father, both in terms of development and taking everybody along with me. Both my party and my father strongly believe in inclusive politics. Yes, it is true that some people make comments. But Mr. Modi's dream is to bring everybody together. Everybody includes minorities.

There is an allegation that your intervention in the administration when your father was Chief Minister put him in trouble. How do you react?

Making allegations against the son of a Chief Minister or a Minister is quite easy. When my father was the Chief Minister, I worked as a bridge between the party and the government. And I am happy that I succeeded to a great extent.

In Shikaripur people raise slogans calling you "future Chief Minister". How do you see it?

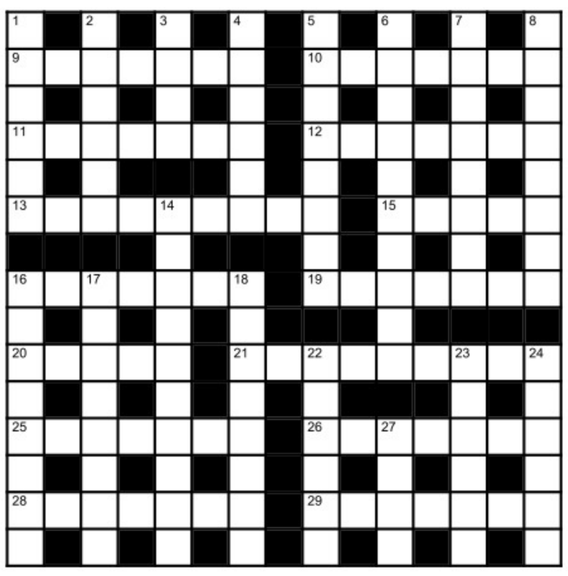
Not only in Shikaripur, in other areas also, people raise that slogan. But I don't get carried away by such things.



TH CROSSWORD + 13845

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*



Across

9 Bad? Consume not so much (7)
10 Most ancient dominion, underrated, revisited, appreciated, interesting origins of a city (7)
11 Investigate former lover's scheme, mostly on taking rupee (7)
12 Regrets releasing pressure to allow latitude, then changes mind (7)
13 God! Two setters surround slithering snake hissing at the top (9)
15 Misal, nachos not entirely this dish (5)
16 Rude awakening, we got burned down by this legendary character (7)
19 Leakage? Consult attendant (7)
20 Me? (5)
21 Offer daughter lollypop heartily, fondly (9)
25 Crater is California? Read wrongly (7)
26 Pour gin cocktail for coterie (7)
28 Pairing with 15 is the norm, almost total relish (7)
29 Subject of currency (7)

Down

1 Deliberate jump in the centre of Louvre, say (6)
2 Relief staff at the French place of worship (6)
3 Protest against monster endlessly (4)
4 Estimate idiot's score first (6)
5 Involves cooks to add some elaichi, mace upfront (8)
6 Teenager gets a perfume investing income (10)
7 Cut learners' allowance first given for fabric (8)
8 Discourage dad's issue somehow exclude son (8)
14 A role taken by males primarily to sweep in homes, say (10)
16 Say, uncle holds grand rewards for marsh plants (8)
17 Moaners linger around, taking government dollars (8)
18 Old ship in island say, behind a country (8)
22 To begin with violet's best, plus some gardenia's best flower (6)
23 Evergreen, adored all over the place (6)
24 You pop ice regularly? Could be a successful young person (6)
27 Computing rule for job's nothing (4)

SUDOKU

1								6
9	2				7			
		5		6				2
		9	6		4		8	
8			1		5			4
	6		8		3	7		
3				5		6		
			9				2	3
2								7

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

R	E	L	E	A	S	E		H	U	S	B	A	N	D
E		U		B		X		I		E		M		E
C	O	N	V	I	N	C	E	D		R	O	B	E	S
I		A		L		E		E		V		U		E
P	A	R	T	I	A	L		S	M	A	L	L	E	R
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S	H	A	D	Y		E	X	I	S	T	E	N	C	E
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F	A	N	T	A	S	T	I	C		O	P	E	R	A
O		O		C				R		P				L
R	O	U	G	H	L	Y		E	M	P	E	R	O	R
M		N		I		E		A		R		A		I
U	N	C	L	E		L	I	S	T	E	N	I	N	G
L		E		V		L		E		S		S		H
A	D	D	R	E	S	S		S	U	S	P	E	C	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	5	8	9	2	1	7	3
8	7	3	6	5	1	9	4	2
1	9	2	4	3	7	5	6	8
5	8	4	2	7	6	3	1	9
2	1	7	9	8	3	6	5	4
6	3	9	5	1	4	8	2	7
7	2	8	1	6	9	4	3	5
9	4	1	3	2	5	7	8	6
3	5	6	7	4	8	2	9	1

FAITH

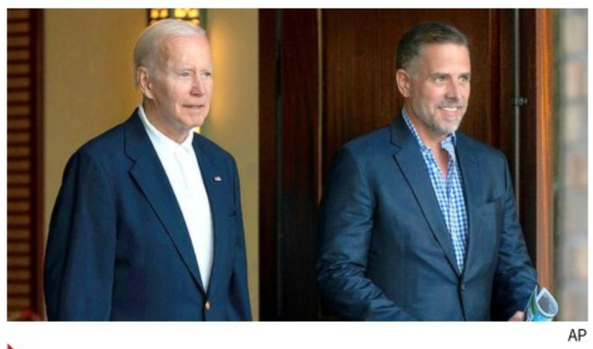
Exoneration of souls

Scriptures say that we cannot define or decide what is a good deed or what a sinful deed is. We have to identify and understand only with the help of sastras. The ill-effect of sinful deeds can be cleansed by two ways. The first one is by experiencing them. Even if we take hundred births, it will be with us until we experienced and exhausted. The second way is by undertaking remedial measures (Prayaschitham). Only God has the power and through His resolve our sins can be eradicated. Lord Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita says "*Aham Thva Sarva Papebhyaha*" - "I will secure you all deliverance from all sins, be rid of all worries".

Like an accused being hand-cuffed, we are pushed into the worldly bondage. Swami Vedantha Desika in his Daya Sathakam says in sloka 33 "*pala vitharana thaksham*" – through an enactment of a court scene that we are brought into the courtroom of God's kingdom. The bench of judges consists of God and His divine consort. The rules say that an innocent should not be punished. Neither excess nor moderate punishment should be handed out. An equal and exact punishment matching to the crime should be passed. No lopsided judgment or no partiality be shown. The arguments of the accused should be heard. No one comes forward to argue on our behalf including all the celestials. But Dayadevi, the Goddess in the form of mercy, out of sympathy towards us pleads with the God on our behalf that a surrendered soul need not be punished and God with a melting heart exonerates us, said Sri Valayapettai Ramachariar in a discourse.

WASHINGTON

IRS agent alleges Hunter Biden probe is being mishandled



AP

An IRS special agent is seeking whistleblower protection to disclose information about alleged mishandling of an investigation into Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden. Mark Lytle, attorney for the whistleblower, said that his client has information whether he made a false statement in connection with a gun purchase. AP

AMSTERDAM

AP image of Mariupol hospital attack wins World Press Photo

AP

Associated Press photographer Evgeniy Maloletka won the World Press Photo of the year on Thursday for his harrowing image of emergency workers carrying a pregnant woman through the shattered grounds of a maternity hospital in the Ukrainian city of Mariupol, in the chaotic aftermath of a Russian attack. AP

WASHINGTON

Yellen says U.S. seeks 'constructive' economic ties with China

AP

The U.S. seeks "constructive and fair" economic ties with China, but will protect its national security interests, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said on Thursday. Speaking at Johns Hopkins University, Ms. Yellen said the Biden administration's principal objectives are an economic relationship between the two largest economies. REUTERS

NEW YORK

BuzzFeed to close news operation, to reduce 15% of its workforce

AFP

BuzzFeed announced on Thursday that it was shutting its news division as part of cost-saving cuts. The company cited challenges including recession and the struggling stock market. "We are reducing our workforce by 15% today... and beginning the process of closing BuzzFeed News," CEO Jonah Peretti said. AFP

NATO must invite Ukraine into alliance, says Zelensky

Reuters
KYIV

President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Thursday it was time for NATO to take the political decision to invite Ukraine to join the military alliance, and that Kyiv wanted to know when it would become a member.

The Ukrainian leader told a joint news conference in wartime Kyiv with visiting NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg that a NATO summit in Vilnius in July could become "historic", and that he had been invited to attend.

"I am grateful for the invitation to visit the summit, but it is also important for Ukraine to receive the corresponding invitation," he told reporters as Mr. Stoltenberg visited Kyiv for the first time since Russia's invasion in February 2022.

SpaceX's uncrewed Starship explodes shortly after liftoff

The rocket has been designed to send astronauts to the moon, Mars and beyond; despite the failure to complete the full 90-minute flight test and reach orbit, SpaceX declared it a success

Agence France-Presse
TEXAS

Starship, the most powerful rocket ever built, exploded during its first flight on Thursday, but Elon Musk congratulated his SpaceX team on an "exciting" test of the spacecraft designed to send astronauts to the moon, Mars and beyond.

The uncrewed rocket disintegrated minutes after successfully blasting off at 8.33 a.m. Central Time (7.03 p.m. IST) from Starbase, the SpaceX spaceport in Boca Chica, Texas. The Starship spacecraft that will eventually carry crew and cargo had been scheduled to separate from the first-stage rocket booster three minutes into the flight, but separation failed to occur and the rocket blew up in a ball of fire over the Gulf of Mexico. Despite the failure to complete the full 90-minute flight test and reach orbit, SpaceX and Mr. Musk declared it a success. "Congrats team on an exciting test launch of Starship!" Mr. Musk tweeted. "Learned a lot for next test launch in a few months."

The SpaceX Starship lifts off from the launchpad during a flight test from Starbase in Boca Chica, Texas on Thursday. AFP

SpaceX said that "with a test like this, success comes from what we learn, and today's test will help us improve Starship's reliability as SpaceX seeks to make life multi-planetary."

NASA has picked the Starship spacecraft to ferry astronauts to the Moon in late 2025 – a mission known as Artemis III – for the first time since the Apollo programme ended in 1972. NASA chief Bill Nelson congratulated SpaceX, saying "every great achievement throughout history has demanded some level of calculated risk, because with great risk comes great reward."

Starship consists of a 164-foot-tall spacecraft designed to carry crew and cargo that sits atop a 230-foot tall first-stage Super Heavy booster rocket.

85 dead, hundreds injured in Yemen crush over $8 aid

Agence France-Presse
SANAA

The screengrab from Al-Masirah TV shows scene from the stampede at an event in Sanaa where over 80 persons were killed. AFP

At least 85 people were killed and hundreds injured in a crush at a Ramzan cash handout in Yemen early on Thursday, as the impoverished country suffered one of its worst tragedies just as optimism was growing over its bitter civil war.

Three people were detained over the stampede in Sanaa, Yemen's rebel-held capital, after large crowds gathered at a school to receive gifts of 5,000 rial (about $8) for the end of Ramzan.

Harrowing footage screened by the Iran-backed Huthi rebels' Al Masirah TV showed a tightly packed crowd screaming and shoving, unable to move, while others attempted to haul stricken people out of the crush.

Other shots showed dead bodies on the ground as the panic continued. Afterwards, piles of abandoned sandals, clothing and a crutch littered the scene, while an investigator in white protective gear collected evidence.

"It was a huge crowd. They fell on me, and I got hurt," an injured child told Al Masirah from his hospital bed.

A Huthi security official speaking on condition of anonymity told AFP that at least 85 people were killed and "more than 322" injured, 50 of them seriously.

"Women and children were among the dead," the official said. A health official confirmed the toll.

The tragedy comes just ahead of Eid al-Fitr, a major Muslim festival, and punctures a buoyant mood over the war in the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country, following peace talks and an exchange of nearly 1,000 prisoners last week.

Assad emerges from isolation as West Asia diplomacy shifts

NEWS ANALYSIS

Stanly Johny

In 2011, when civil strife broke out in Syria following street protests, Saudi Arabia led the Arab efforts to isolate the regime of President Bashar al-Assad and expel the country from the Arab League. When the Sunni-majority country ruled by the secular Arab Baath party slid into a civil war, Saudi Arabia and its Sunni allies in the Gulf backed different rebel groups that were fighting Mr. Assad, who belongs to the minority Alawite community (an offshoot of Shiism).

But those days seem like a distant past. Recent weeks saw Arab countries and Syria trying to rebuild their lost bonhomie. Jordan and Egypt recently sent their Foreign Ministers to Damascus for their first top level visits since the civil war broke out. Mr. Assad travelled to the UAE last month where he was greeted by Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, the ruler of the seven Emirates. Earlier this week, Tunisia became the latest Arab country to normalise ties with Syria. On Tuesday, Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan travelled to Damascus where he held talks with Mr. Assad.

Bashar al-Assad

Victory in the civil war

These changes are part of the larger realignments that are under way in West Asia, say experts. "The normalisation between Saudi Arabia and Syria shows that regional powers are reassessing their strategies after Assad retook control of most of Syria in recent years," said Mohammed Soliman, director at the Washington-based Middle East Institute. "It also reflects Riyadh's approach vis-à-vis Tehran, which includes the China-backed Saudi-Iran agreement, the evolving ties with Baghdad, and now the restoration of ties with Syria," Mr. Soliman told *The Hindu*.

Iran and Saudi Arabia were at opposing sides in Syria's civil war. Mr. Assad's victory made most Arab countries rethink their strategy. The UAE made the first move when it reestablished formal ties with Damascus in late 2018. The February earthquake that killed thousands of people in Turkey and Syria turned out to be a diplomatic opportunity for Damascus and its Arab neighbours. Syria wanted help and its neighbours seemed ready to bring their old Arab brother in from the cold.

Jordan immediately held talks with the Assad regime, which was followed by others. Once Saudi Arabia warmed up to normalising ties with Damascus, it gave a fresh momentum to diplomacy.

"Why did the Saudis change their policy towards Syria? The reason is that the previous policy did not work," Foad Izadi, Associate Professor, Faculty of World Studies, University of Tehran, said. In an interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Izadi said the Saudis spent billions of dollars on their Syria plan to topple the government. "The result was death, destruction and civil war in that country... all that money was not enough for them to achieve their goal."

But engagement could help them find some stability in West Asia. In the case of Syria, other Arab countries have accepted the fact that Mr. Assad has won the civil war. The next step is to push for political reforms inside the country, create circumstances for the Syrian refugees to return, keep the Islamist forces under check, and roll back Iran's growing influence in Damascus. None of these goals can be met if they continue to boycott Mr. Assad.

Remaining challenges

While Syria's return to the Arab fold marks a turn of the page in West Asia's tumultuous contemporary history, a return to the pre-civil war normalcy faces critical challenges. One, the wounds of the civil war, in which millions of people were killed, are still fresh for many Syrians. It is to be seen whether Mr. Assad would be ready for serious political reforms. Second, the U.S., the region's traditional great power, is not happy with the Arab-Syria rapprochement as Damascus continues to remain under Western sanctions.

"Obviously, the U.S. and Israel don't like the new policy. But the hope we have is that the Saudi government can resist this type of pressure," added Mr. Izadi.

Sudan deaths mount as Army chief rules out talks

Agence France-Presse
KHARTOUM

Explosions and gunfire resounded in Sudan's capital on Thursday as fighting between the forces of two rival Generals showed no signs of abating ahead of festivities marking the end of Ramzan. Over 300 people have been killed since the fighting erupted on Saturday between Sudan Army and the Rapid Support Forces. Mr. Burhan dismissed any prospects for negotiations with Mr. Daglo, telling *Al Jazeera* he sees no option but "decisive military" action.

The Sudanese army said 177 Egyptian soldiers were evacuated from Meroe to Egypt. The RSF said it handed over another 27 Egyptian soldiers to the Sudanese Red Cross.

Khan's party leader is PoK's new 'Premier'

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Chaudhry Anwarul Haq, a lawmaker from former PM Imran Khan's party was elected as the "Prime Minister" of PoK on Thursday. The top post fell vacant on April 11 after Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan was disqualified by the region's high court over maligning the judiciary.

Mr. Haq got the trust of all 48 members present in the House as all major parties, including PML-Nawaz, rallied behind him.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
MARINE DEPARTMENT
No.MD/ACCTS-WK-R-4/2022/499
Dated, the 19th April 2023
e-Tender Call Notice (e-TCN)
Name of the Work : "Supply of 01 No. 60 Ton Bollard Pull Tug along with Manning crew on Hire for Marine Operation at SPMs and inside Harbour at Paradip for a period of seven years". Estimated Cost put to tender : ₹.75,48,71,148/-. Last date & time of submission of bids through on-line bidding is 1500 hours on Dt.06.06.2023. Technical Bids shall be opened at 1600 hours on Dt.07.06.2023. For details, please log on to the Website : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app .
Dy. Conservator
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/05/2023-24, Dt.20.04.23

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Sd/-Director

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Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
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(Accredited by NAAC) (ISO 9001 ; 2015)
(Dept.of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt.of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112. Phone: 044 - 27472113, 27472423. Mobile: 9444314716, Toll Free No: 18004250345 Kiran Mental Health Helpline No: 1800-599-0019
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in Email: niepmd@gmail.com, asponiepmd@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Tender (E-TENDER) for Rate Contract for purchase of Teaching Learning Materials - Multiple Disabilities(MD), Intellectual Disabilities-(ID)
NIEPMD invites E- Tender through NIC e-procurement portal URL http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app in two bid system from reputed TLM Manufacturers and their authorised suppliers & Distributers having proven track record in supplying Teaching Learning Materials to Institutes/Colleges/Special Schools/NGOs. The e-tender details & document can also be downloaded from the NIEPMD website www.niepmd.tn.nic.in.

Details	TLM (MD)	TLM (ID)
Last date and Time for E-bidding	08.05.2023 (2.00 PM)	08.05.2023 (3.00 PM)
Tender Fee	Rs.1,000/-	Rs.1,000/-
EMD Amount	Rs.2,50,000/-	Rs.5,00,000/-
Date and Time of Opening of Tender	09.05.2023 (4.00 PM)	09.05.2023 (3.30 PM)

Sd/-
Director

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur
RISL invites e-bids from the eligible bidders for the following:

NIB No./ Date/ Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/ EMD	Start of sale /Last date
340/17.04.2023 RIS2324SLOB00010	RFP for Maintenance of Optical Fiber Network Monitoring System & Test Equipment	Rs. 7.00 Cr/ Rs. 14.00 Lacs	17.04.2023 17.05.2023

Details can be seen on the websites http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in, & http://doitc.rajasthan.gov.in. Bids are to be submitted through http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.
Raj.Samwad/C/23/889 General Manager (Technical)

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत बून्दी
क्रमांक: केशियर/61 दिनांक : 13.04.2023
निविदा सूचना संख्या 02/2023-24
NIB code (PWD2324A0122)
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से वृत बून्दी के अधीन खण्ड कार्यालयों के अंतर्गत सड़क निर्माण कार्य के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त पात्र श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष से पाँच वर्ष की गारण्टी अवधि सहित निम्न कार्यों की निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट "www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in", http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है। निविदा अपलोड करने की तारीख 21.04.2023 से 11.05.2023 को सायं 6:00 बजे तक।
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00530, UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00531
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00532, UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00533
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00534, UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00535
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00536, UBN is: PWD2324WSOB00537
(वी.के. जैन)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. वृत बून्दी
डीआईपीआर/सी/5524/2023

RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED
राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम लिमिटेड
(A Government of India Enterprise)
VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT
WORKS CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
RINL-Visakhapatnam Steel Plant invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from prospective bidders having expertise, experience, resources and interest to take up the following job. Interested firms are requested to submit their EOI for the above work. The detailed EOI document can be downloaded from website www.vizagsteel.com under menu Tenders/Works Contracts, through ERP SRM portal and Govt. website.
EOI No.: UTILITIES/2600008257/EOI/2023 Dtd:19/04/2023
Name of the Work: Supply of Oxygen Gas (purity 90% or more) to Visakhapatnam Steel Plant by installation of Oxygen Plants by Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption (VPSA)/Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Technology.
Submission dead line: Before 3.00PM on 04/05/2023
Bid Opening Date & Time: After 3.00PM on 05/05/2023
Interested and eligible Persons/Agencies may submit their "Expression of Interest" with all relevant details and supporting documents on or before 04/05/2023 at 3.00PM.
For Technical queries contact person: Mr. NR Ravi, GM(Utilities)I/c, email: nrravi@vizagsteel.com Mobile No.+91 99892 28886.
GENERAL MANAGER (WC)I/C
For more details & corrigendum please visit regularly www.vizagsteel.com

INBRIEF

'Raw material availability will be key issue for steel industry'

Raw material availability will be the key challenge for the steel industry, according to the 'Steel Outlook 2030-2047' report prepared by Deloitte. The report was released on the second day of the ongoing 'India Steel 2023' conference organised by FICCI. "In 2030, captive leases will expire, and we have to look at expediting new iron ore blocks and auctioning quickly," Deloitte said in the report, urging the set-up of more steel scrap recycling centres and policies to support exports.

SEBI bans Care Ratings ex-CEO for violating securities law

India's market regulator barred the former CEO of Care Ratings Ltd. from the securities market for two years for violation of rules. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said Rajesh Mokashi, former MD and CEO of Care, interfered in the rating committee decision while it rated instruments issued by Yes Bank, Dewan Housing and Finance Ltd. and Infrastructure and Financial Services Ltd, a unit of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Ltd. REUTERS

Wipro Consumer acquires Kerala's ready-to-cook brand

Wipro Consumer Care and Lighting said it has entered into an agreement to acquire Brahmins, a traditional vegetarian, ready-to-cook brand located in Kerala. The company said it was looking at becoming a sizeable player in the packaged-foods segment. "We intend to make this acquisition – our 14th acquisition – as successful as our previous ones," said Vineet Agrawal, the chief executive officer of Wipro Consumer Care.

'War against inflation not yet won'

Premature to declare end to tightening cycle, says RBI MPC's Varma; no further 'withdrawal of accommodation' remains to be done, repo rate is already at 6.5% – a level that prevailed at the beginning of previous easing cycle in Feb. 2019, he says

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The war against inflation has not yet been won, and it would be premature to declare an end to the current tightening cycle, RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) member Professor Jayanth R. Varma remarked in his statement in the last MPC meeting, the minutes of which were released by the Reserve Bank on Thursday reveal.

Mr. Varma had expressed reservations on the second resolution, namely: "MPC decided to remain focused on withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation progressively aligns with the target." While supporting growth, he wrote, "I cannot put my name to a stance that I do not even understand. At the same time, it is clear that the war against inflation has not yet been won, and it would be premature to declare an end to this tightening cycle." He flagged the need for heightened vigilance in the face of the fresh risks [an oil output cut by OPEC+ and monsoon-related] that have emerged.

Time for a hawk's eye

Professor Varma flagged the need for greater vigilance in the face of the fresh risks such as an oil output cut by OPEC+ and monsoon-related issues that have emerged

- On the growth front, early warning signs of a possible slowdown are visible to a greater extent than in February
- In the current situation of high inflation, monetary policy does not have the luxury of responding to these growth headwinds

'Warning signs'

"On the growth front, early warning signs of a possible slowdown are visible to a greater extent than in February. In the current situation of high inflation, monetary policy does not have the luxury of responding to these growth headwinds," he wrote.

It is almost "axiomatic' that monetary action can cool inflation only by suppressing demand. However, policymakers must be vigilant against overshooting the terminal policy rate, and thereby "slowing the economy", he added.

On the MPC's stance, he said, "I fail to comprehend its meaning. I am unable to reconcile the language of the stance with the... fact that no further 'withdrawal of accommodation' remains to be done... the repo rate has already been raised to the 6.5% level prevailing at the beginning of the previous easing cycle in February 2019."

HCLTech Q4 profit rises 11% to ₹3,983 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

HCLTech reported that net income for the fourth quarter ended March 31 grew 10.8% year-on-year to ₹3,983 crore, backed by strong growth in its services and software revenues.

For FY23, the company reported net income growth of 10% at ₹14,851 compared with the year-earlier period.

"Our new bookings for FY23 grew 6.6%. Our pipeline is near an all-time high, which reflects our differentiated business mix and strong client demand for our offerings," said C. Vijayakumar, CEO and MD of the company.

C. Vijayakumar

Manish Chowdhury, head of Research, Stoxbox said, "HCLTech has reported a marginal miss on most parameters except for net profit."

"The results do not look as bad as other heavyweights such as TCS and Infosys, but we do see a deterioration in the demand environment," he added.

India's real GDP growth likely accelerated to 4.9% in Q4: ICRA

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Growth may slow to 6.9% in FY23 from 9.1% the previous year on higher commodity prices

India's real GDP growth is likely to have picked up pace to 4.9% in the last quarter of 2022-23 from the 4.4% uptick recorded in the October to December 2022 quarter, rating agency ICRA said on Thursday.

For the full year gone by, ICRA has retained its 6.9% GDP growth projection, a tad lower than the 7% projected by the National Statistical Office that will release its Q4 growth estimates at the end of May.

"Notwithstanding higher volumes for most indicators, India's GDP growth is likely to moderate to 6.9% in 2022-23 from 9.1% in 2021-22 given the margin compression in some industrial sectors owing to higher commodity prices, even as the services sector displayed a robust performance in the year," Aditi Nayar, chief economist and head – Research and Outreach at the firm told *The Hindu*.

However, when considered against pre-pandemic levels of 2019-20, the GDP growth last year would be about 10% higher, sharply over the 2.8% uptick seen in 2021-22, Ms. Nayar reckoned. ICRA has forecast India's 2023-24 GDP growth at 6%.

A mixed picture

The signals from economic activity in April are mixed so far, the agency said, citing a 28% month-on-month drop in vehicle registrations and a 6.6% fall in petrol sales, even as diesel sales rose 8.4% sequentially.

Electricity demand in the current month has contracted 1.9% from April 2022 levels.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,632	0.11
US Dollar	82.17	0.09
Gold	60,340	0.66
Brent oil	81.18	-2.13

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1842.90	-10.95
Adani Ports	666.10	7.70
Apollo Hosp	4348.40	28.10
Asian Paints	2843.85	34.15
Axis Bank	868.75	-4.65
Bajaj Auto	4314.35	48.55
Bajaj Finserv	1332.10	0.75
Bajaj Finance	5912.70	-35.05
Bharti Airtel	772.30	7.65
BPCL	343.70	1.70
Britannia Ind	4256.40	-37.45
Cipla	904.00	-7.90
Coal India	229.55	-0.85
Divis Lab	3203.10	-139.50
Dr Reddys Lab	4858.20	-51.15
Eicher Motors	3246.95	-42.65
Grasim Ind	1687.45	-2.65
HCL Tech	1037.50	-1.20
HDFC	2743.00	-1.80
HDFC Bank	1671.90	6.20
HDFC Life	530.25	5.45
Hero MotoCorp	2448.55	2.60
Hindalco	429.85	-3.20
Hind Unilever	2492.60	-39.00
ICICI Bank	894.40	2.50
IndusInd Bank	1126.20	5.80
Infosys	1223.40	-8.80
ITC	400.30	1.55
JSW Steel	715.80	-6.55
Kotak Bank	1884.00	-0.90
L&T	2232.75	13.15
M&M	1218.60	3.10
Maruti Suzuki	8714.65	34.70
NestleIndia	20473.10	-145.60
NTPC	169.70	2.60
ONGC	159.15	-0.95
PowerGrid Corp	230.90	0.95
Reliance Ind	2346.05	-5.95
SBI Life	1128.85	5.45
State Bank	544.80	4.50
Sun Pharma	987.75	-7.75
TataConsumerProduct	703.40	2.55
Tata Motors	476.80	7.40
Tata Steel	108.00	-0.10
TCS	3104.80	15.20
Tech Mahindra	1021.80	7.90
Titan	2579.25	9.95
UltraTech Cement	7475.80	-40.10
UPL	732.05	-3.90
Wipro	362.85	2.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on April 20

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.95	82.27
Euro	89.91	90.27
British Pound	101.96	102.37
Japanese Yen (100)	60.87	61.11
Chinese Yuan	11.91	11.96
Swiss Franc	91.63	92.00
Singapore Dollar	61.48	61.72
Canadian Dollar	60.83	61.09
Malaysian Ringitt	18.46	18.55
Australian Dollar	55.19	55.41

Source:Indian Bank

Elgi's €20-mn investment in Europe is on track, says MD

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

Elgi Equipments is going ahead with the €20-million investment in Europe as announced and stated four years ago, said Jairam Varadaraj, MD.

Mr. Varadaraj told reporters from Hannover Messe that the company was growing in Europe.

According to Chris Ringlstetter, president of Elgi Compressors Europe, ever since the company started its Europe operations, it had witnessed tenfold growth. Mr. Varadaraj said about 60% of Elgi's revenue came from global business and 30%-40% of it is from Europe.

Apple's Cook meets IT Minister Vaishnaw

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Apple CEO Tim Cook was received in the capital on Thursday by large crowds and had high-profile meetings lined up.

In the morning, Mr. Cook attended the inauguration of Apple Saket, the second store the company now directly runs in India.

Later in the evening, Mr. Cook met IT and Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. Mr. Vaishnaw posted a clip from Rail Bhawan.

The Minister showed a framed picture of the Chenab Rail Bridge to Mr. Cook, noting it was 30 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower.

"That's special," Mr. Cook remarked. The video

was shot on an India-assembled iPhone, Mr. Vaishnaw said.

Mr. Cook's visit marks a milestone for the Cupertino-headquartered iPhone maker. Enough of its products are now assembled in India for it to open retail storefronts, the way it does in its home country, Europe, and in China. Apple product sales have grown healthily in India, by upwards of 45% for 2021-22.

Cyient Q4 net profit rises 6%, declares ₹16 dividend

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

IT firm Cyient reported consolidated net profit increased almost 6% year-on-year to ₹163.2 crore during the March quarter on the back of a more-than-48% growth in revenue from operations to ₹1,751.4 crore.

The company declared final dividend of ₹16 per share (par value of ₹5 each) for 2022-23.

In the notes accompanying the results, Cyient said one of its U.S. subsidiaries had incurred legal costs of $2 million, and $5.8 million on an antitrust lawsuit for the quarter and year ended March 31, respectively.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners: **Smt.R.INDIRA W/o Late N.Rama Murthy,** her son **Sri.AJAY R. SIMHA and daughter-in-law Smt.ANITHA SIMHA,** residing at No.302, Brigade Park side Senior Citizens Retirement Home, Brigade Orchards, Spinal Road, Devanahalli, Bengaluru-562110.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.1440/A-39, PID No.58-44-39, measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 56 ft, with a building thereon comprised of Ground and First Floor, situated at 39th 'E' Cross, 18th Main, 4th T Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560041 and bounded on:

East by : Property bearing No.1439/A
West by : Property bearing No.1441/A-40
North by : Road
South by : Property No.1547

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby notified that, our clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owner **Mrs.SADIYA USMAN** D/o Mr.Usman Khan, W/o Mr.Adhil Khan.O, residing at No.58, 2nd Cross, Wheeler Road, Sindhi Colony, Fraser Town, Bengaluru-560 005, represented by her father and General Power of Attorney holder: **Mr.USMAN KHAN** S/o Mr.Zakriah Khan. The Owner represents that she is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and she has good marketable, right, title and interest therein.

Apart from the above owner, if any person has any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same shall be filed with the undersigned with supporting documents, within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of this Notice. Objections and or the claims received after expiry of the stipulated time will not be binding on our clients and our clients will proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **Municipal Nos.58 (PID No.91-65-58); 58/1 (PID No.91-65-58/1) and 58/2 (PID No.91-65-58/2) Old No.4/11,** measuring East to West (62+66)/2ft and North to South 40ft, in all measuring 2,560 Sq.ft, with a house building thereon, situated at 2nd Cross, **Wheeler Road (formerly known as M.Nanjunda Rao Layout) Cleveland Town,** Bengaluru-560 005, within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP ward No.78 and bounded as follows:

East by : Road
West by : Private Property
North by : Property bearing No.10
South by : Property bearing No.12

Sd/- BAYYA REDDY. M
For ISHA LAW CHAMBERS LLP
Advocates & Solicitors
No.101, 4th Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex, 22nd Main Road,
BSK 2nd Stage, Opp : Banashankari BDA Complex, Bengaluru-560070.

Natco Pharma to set up subsidiary in Indonesia

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Drugmaker Natco Pharma has decided to set up a subsidiary in Indonesia at an investment of up to $3 million as part of a strategy to enhance growth and profitability with forays into new markets.

Initially, the firm will invest $1 million as capital contribution in the subsidiary, which will be a 51:49 JV with PT. Mitra Medis Exim (MME) that belongs to the 40-year-old multi-diversified Mitra Jaya Group.

MME, which will hold 49% stake, is into distribution of API and excipients for end users in Indonesia.

EU seeks liberalised traffic rights to take on Gulf carriers

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Aiming to take on Gulf carriers, the European Union (EU) on Thursday made a pitch to the Indian government for implementing 'open skies' in letter and spirit and sign a common agreement with it instead of separate ones with various European countries.

This, it said, would enhance direct connectivity and plug "leakages" due to some carriers "ripping off" the market and "controlling" its share of direct air traffic from India.

"The figures show that direct connectivity has been barely growing since 2009, but conversely, the indirect connectivity has

been booming and increased by 44%," and this growth was led by "Gulf carriers at the expense of direct traffic between EU and India", Olivier Jankovec, Director General of European Region of the Airports Council International told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of the EU-India Aviation Summit.

He said though India had an Open Skies policy for Europe under which there should be no cap on frequencies of flights as well as cities served in Europe and India, the agreements it had with some of the 26 member-States imposed restrictions.

"A comprehensive aviation agreement, where they would fully liberalise aviation traffic, would incentivise and enable the growth of direct traffic," he added.

Jozsef Varadi, CEO of Hungarian airline Whizz Air, said international passenger traffic out of India was being served by "inefficient high-cost carriers" which were "ripping off" the market and "controlling" EU-India traffic and this needed to change.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಚುನಾವಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
Deputy Commissioner & District Election Office, Dharwad-580001
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 0836-2233840, 2233880, (ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್) 0836-2747102 e-mail : deo.dharwad@gmail.com

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಕಸಾಚು/ವಹಿ-01 /2023 ದಿನಾಂಕ 20-04-2023

KARNATAKA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTION - 2023
PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the below mentioned General Observers and Police Observer, have arrived in Dharwad District. The Place of stay, Meeting Hours and Contact Information is given below

Sl. No	No & Name of Assembly Constituency	Name of Observer	Contacts	Place of Stay	Public Meeting Time & Place
1	69-Navalgund 70-Kundgol	Shri Aditya Kumar Anand IAS General Observer	0836-2003106 9141010432 E-Mail: 6970.go2023@gmail.com	New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.3	10-00AM To 11-00AM At New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.3
2	71-Dharwad 72- Hubballi-Dharwad East	Shri Pawan Kumar Sain IAS General Observer	0836-2009061 9141010433 E-Mail: 7172.go2023@gmail.com	International Guest House, UAS, Dharwad Malaprabha	10-00AM To 11-00AM International Guest House, UAS, Dharwad Malaprabha
3	73-Hubballi-Dharwad Central, 74 - Hubballi Dharwad West	Shri Muthukrishnan Sankaranarayanan IAS General Observer	0836-2003105 9141010434 E-Mail: 7374.go2023@gmail.com	New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.2	10-00AM To 11-00AM New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.2
4	75-Kalaghatagi	Shri Manoj Pushp IAS General Observer	0836-2009063 9141010435 E-Mail: 75.go2023@gmail.com	International Guest House, UAS Dharwad Shalmala	9-00AM To 10-00AM International Guest House, UAS Dharwad Shalmala
5	69-Navalgund, 70-Kundgol, 71-Dharwad, 72-Hubballi-Dharwad East, 73-Hubballi-Dharwad Central, 74-Hubballi-Dharwad West, 75-Kalaghatagi	Shri Sujeet Pandey IPS Police Observer	0836-2003107 9141010436 E-Mail: Dharwad.po2023@gmail.com	New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.4	10-00AM To 11-00AM New Circuit House Hubballi NVVIP Room No.4,

DIPR/DWD/03/2023-24/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY

Sd/- District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner, Dharwad District, Dharwad

DAVID'S DISTINCTION

Warner becomes the most capped overseas captain in IPL

David Warner became the most capped overseas captain in the IPL, going past Australian teammate Adam Gilchrist. Delhi Capitals' clash against Kolkata Knight Riders was Warner's 75th at the helm of an IPL team. He had led the Sunrisers Hyderabad to its only title in 2016.

UNSETTLED BOWLING

Titans mentor Kirsten admits defending totals a worry

Gujarat Titans is struggling to defend totals this season and mentor Gary Kirsten has blamed it on an unsettled bowling line up. "In the last IPL, we defended four and chased down six games. This year we haven't defended a total yet. This year due to injuries and guys who we bank on in crucial overs, aren't necessarily ready to go," he said.

MARCUS THE MAN

Nice to contribute with the ball, fit enough to bowl more: Stoinis

"Nice to get involved with the ball, I had no real plans to get Jos [Buttler] out that way but I just used some cricketing smarts and bowled it short into the wicket," said LSG's player-of-the-match Marcus Stoinis after the win over RR. "You will have to ask the skipper that question, but fitness wise I am ready to go," he added.

NOT GUILTY

McCullum cleared of breaching anti-corruption code

England Test coach Brendon McCullum has been cleared by the ECB of breaching its anti-corruption code and will face no further action over his involvement with an online betting business. The Kiwi had stepped back from his commercial role with 22Bet, a bookmaker for whom he has appeared in several online advertisements.

Royal Challengers in cruise control against Kings

Stand-in skipper Kohli tangos with du Plessis to set up a tricky total; Siraj then breathes fire with a four-wicket haul to restrict the hosts 24 runs short

IPL-16

Shayan Acharya
MOHALI

Virat Kohli returned as the Royal Challengers Bangalore captain, for the first time since October 2021, and forged a 137-run opening alliance with Faf du Plessis (84, 56b, 5x4, 5x6) to pave the way for his team's 24-run win against Punjab Kings in a crucial Indian Premier League (IPL) fixture at the IS Bindra Stadium here on Thursday.

With regular skipper du Plessis, recovering from a rib injury, turning up only as an Impact Player, Kohli was given the responsibility of leading RCB, and he brought up his fourth half-century of the tournament (59, 47b, 5x4, 1x6) to guide the team to 174 for four.

Put in to bat, RCB got off to a flier, with Kohli and du Plessis taking the team at close to 10 runs per over in the PowerPlay. Arshdeep Singh and Sam Curran employed the short-ball tactic but that did not prove effective as the visiting side raced to 91 for no loss in 10 overs.

With both Kohli and du Plessis hitting boundaries at will, RCB looked on course for a 185-plus total. But, as the game progressed, Kohli got stuck for a while and Harpreet Brar, bowling the 17th over, claimed the wickets of the RCB stand-in captain and Glenn Maxwell off consecutive deliveries to stem the flow. Royal Challengers, despite the sizzling start, could manage only 83 in the last 10 overs.

Party time: Kohli and du Plessis plundered 10 boundaries and six maximums between them to set the stage for Siraj to rattle Kings with a superb spell. PTI/AP

Siraj's feat

No other bowler has claimed more wickets than Siraj in the first six overs this IPL season. He took his sixth PowerPlay scalp against PBKS on Thursday. Siraj finished with four for 21, his best bowling figures in the league.

But as Punjab Kings walked out to chase a tricky total, Mohammed Siraj (four for 21) breathed fire to restrict the home team to 150.

With Shikhar Dhawan missing out due to shoulder injury, Punjab Kings had its hopes pinned on Liam Livingstone.

But the England power-hitter failed to get going and was trapped in front by Siraj. With Siraj and leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga (two for 39) tightening the noose, Kings was reeling at 43 for four inside the PowerPlay.

Though Impact Player Prabhsimran Singh chipped in with a 30-ball-46, he threw his wicket away in the 12th over.

Jitesh Sharma's last-ditch effort – a 27-ball 41 – provided Kings a flicker of hope. With 30 needed from 18 balls, Siraj returned for his fourth and final spell – he bowled just one over in all of them!

The pacer claimed two quick wickets – Harpreet Brar and Nathan Ellis – to snuff out Kings' challenge.

Next assignment

PBKS: April 22 vs. **MI**
Mumbai, 7.30 p.m.

RCB: April 23 vs. **RR**
Bengaluru, 3.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

Virat Kohli c Jitesh b Harpreet Brar 59 *(47b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Faf du Plessis c Curran b Ellis 84 *(56b, 5x4, 5x6)*, Glenn Maxwell c Taide b Harpreet Brar 0 *(1b)*, Dinesh Karthik c Taide b Arshdeep 7 *(5b, 1x4)*, Mahipal Lomror (not out) 7 *(9b, 1x4)*, Shahbaz Ahmed (not out) 5 *(3b)*; Extras (lb-8, nb-1, w-3): 12; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 174.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-137 (Kohli, 16.1 overs), 2-137 (Maxwell, 16.2), 3-151 (du Plessis, 17.3), 4-163 (Karthik, 18.6).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING

Arshdeep 4-0-34-1, Harpreet Brar 3-0-31-2, Ellis 4-0-41-1, Curran 4-0-27-0, Rahul Chahar 4-0-24-0, Livingstone 1-0-9-0.

PUNJAB KINGS

Atharva Taide lbw b Siraj 4 *(2b, 1x4)*, Prabhsimran Singh **(Impact Player in place of Chahar)** b Parnell 46 *(30b, 3x4, 4x6)*, Matthew Short b Hasaranga 8 *(7b, 1x6)*, Liam Livingstone lbw b Siraj 2 *(4b)*, Harpreet Bhatia run out 13 *(9b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Sam Curran run out 10 *(12b, 1x4)*, Jitesh Sharma c Shahbaz b Harshal 41 *(27b, 2x4, 3x6)*, M. Shahrukh Khan st. Karthik b Hasaranga 7 *(5b, 1x6)*, Harpreet Brar b Siraj 13 *(13b, 1x4)*, Nathan Ellis b Siraj 1 *(2b)*, Arshdeep Singh (not out) 0 *(0b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-1, nb-1, w-2): 5; Total (in 18.2 overs): 150.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-4 (Taide, 0.2), 2-20 (Short, 2.1), 3-27 (Livingstone, 3.2), 4-43 (Harpreet Bhatia, 5.3), 5-76 (Curran, 9.5), 6-97 (Prabhsimran, 11.3), 7-106 (Shahrukh, 12.5), 8-147 (Harpreet Brar, 17.3), 9-149 (Ellis, 17.6).

RCB BOWLING

Siraj 4-0-21-4, Parnell 3-0-32-1, Hasaranga 4-0-39-2, Vyshak **(Impact Player in place of du Plessis)** 3-0-29-0, Maxwell 1-0-5-0, Harshal 3.2-0-22-1.

Toss: Kings; **PoM:** Siraj.

RCB won by 24 runs.

Points Table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
Rajasthan Royals	6	4	2	8	1.043
Lucknow Super Giants	6	4	2	8	0.709
Chennai Super Kings	5	3	2	6	0.265
Gujarat Titans	5	3	2	6	0.192
Royal Challengers Bangalore	6	3	3	6	-0.068
Mumbai Indians	5	3	2	6	-0.164
Punjab Kings	6	3	3	6	-0.298
Kolkata Knight Riders	6	2	4	4	0.214
Sunrisers Hyderabad	5	2	3	4	-0.798
Delhi Capitals	6	1	5	2	-1.183

After the DC-KKR match on April 20

Delhi Capitals finally crosses the line; bowlers and Warner guide it past Kolkata Knight Riders

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

For those believing in the law of averages, a victory for Delhi Capitals was certainly round the corner.

After being dominated in five previous encounters this season, a narrow win finally came Capitals' way and resulted in a hat-trick of defeats for Kolkata Knight Riders.

In a rain-delayed contest at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground, after KKR struggled to 127, Capitals skipper David Warner set the foundation of a winning chase. The left-hander contributed a match-winning 41-ball 57 including a 25-ball 45 studded with 10 fours in the PowerPlay.

In the sixth over, Warner carted Sunil Narine for four boundaries to keep Capitals well ahead of the required run-rate.

Eventually, after a minor collapse leading to some anxious moments, Capitals won with four wickets and four deliveries to spare.

Captain's knock: Warner's innings at the top ensured Capitals initially stayed ahead of the required run rate. R.V. MOORTHY

For a change, the now-familiar early dismissals of Prithvi Shaw and Mitchell Marsh did not hurt Capitals. With Warner, now second in the race for the Orange Cap with a tally of 285 runs, Capitals appeared in control.

But the dismissals of Manish Pandey for a 23-ball 21 and Aman Khan (0) raised KKR's hopes before Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav finished the job.

While Capitals stayed in the cellar, KKR's fourth defeat should be its most painful; it came against this season's least performing team.

Asked to bat, KKR found its bright spots in Jason Roy and Andre Russell who took turns to keep the innings afloat.

Roy, dropped at 24 by bowler Mitchell Marsh, went on to score 43 including five boundaries and a six. His fall to Kuldeep Yadav left KKR tottering at 93 for seven in the 15th over.

Later, after being in danger of running out of partners, Russell provided the late flourish by hitting three successive sixes off the final over bowled by Mukesh Kumar.

The over resulted in 19 runs and the last-ball run-out of Varun Chakravarthy.

Next assignment

KKR: April 23 vs. **CSK**
Kolkata, 7.30 p.m.

DC: April 24 vs. **SRH**
Hyderabad, 7.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS

Jason Roy c Aman b Kuldeep 43 *(39b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Litton Das c Lalit b Mukesh 4 *(4b, 1x4)*, Venkatesh Iyer c Marsh b Nortje 0 *(2b)*, Nitish Rana c Mukesh b Ishant 4 *(7b, 1x4)*, Mandeep Singh b Axar 12 *(11b, 1x6)*, Rinku Singh c Lalit b Axar 6 *(8b, 1x4)*, Sunil Narine c Warner b Ishant 4 *(6b, 1x4)*, Andre Russell (not out) 38 *(31b, 1x4, 4x6)*, Anukul Roy **(Impact Player in place of Venkatesh)** lbw b Kuldeep 0 *(1b)*, Umesh Yadav c & b Nortje 3 *(5b)*, Varun Chakravarthy run out 1 *(6b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-11): 12; Total (in 20 overs): 127.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-15 (Litton, 1.6 overs), 2-25 (Venkatesh, 3.3), 3-32 (Nitish, 5.2), 4-50 (Mandeep, 8.2), 5-64 (Rinku, 10.2), 6-70 (Narine, 11.2), 7-93 (Roy, 14.4), 8-93 (Anukul, 14.5), 9-96 (Umesh, 15.4).

CAPITALS BOWLING

Ishant 4-0-19-2, Mukesh 4-0-34-1, Nortje 4-0-20-2, Axar 3-0-13-2, Marsh 2-0-25-0, Kuldeep 3-0-15-2.

DELHI CAPITALS

David Warner lbw b Varun 57 *(41b, 11x4)*, Prithvi Shaw **(Impact Player in place of Ishant)** b Varun 13 *(11b, 2x4)*, Mitchell Marsh c sub (Wiese) b Nitish 2 *(9b)*, Phil Salt c & b Anukul 5 *(3b, 1x4)*, Manish Pandey c Rinku b Anukul 21 *(23b, 2x4)*, Axar Patel (not out) 19 *(22b, 1x4)*, Aman Khan b Nitish 0 *(2b)*, Lalit Yadav (not out) 4 *(7b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-3, nb-2): 7; Total (for six wkts. in 19.2 overs): 128.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-38 (Shaw, 4.3), 2-62 (Marsh, 7.2), 3-67 (Salt, 8.1), 4-93 (Warner, 13.1), 5-110 (Pandey, 15.5), 6-111 (Aman, 16.2).

KNIGHT RIDERS BOWLING

Umesh 1-0-6-0, Khejroliya 1.2-0-20-0, Russell 1-0-12-0, Narine 4-0-36-0, Varun 4-1-16-2, Anukul 4-0-19-2, Nitish 4-0-17-2.

Toss: Capitals; **PoM:** Ishant.

Delhi Capitals won by four wickets with four balls to spare.

The Dhoni show returns to Chepauk as Sunrisers come calling

Ayan Acharya
CHENNAI

It is tempting to glaze over a little whenever talk swirls around M.S. Dhoni and how much longer he will sport the CSK yellow. Super Kings' home games – against the familiar tableau of a sea of yellow, the chants of 'Dhoni! Dhoni! Dhoni!' and a sports goods store (Dhoni Sports) across the street from the Chepauk Stadium – have become a complete MSD package.

Once again, with a full-strength crowd rooting for the home side, CSK will look to outshine Sunrisers Hyderabad in an IPL 2023 match at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Friday.

CSK comes into the contest on the back of an exciting eight-run win over RCB while SRH lost to Mumbai Indians by 14 runs at home.

The Sunrisers bowlers, who have conceded more than 10 in the death overs in this edition, will be up against a Super Kings outfit which has a scoring rate of 12 in the same phase. CSK has four left-handers in its top seven, making off-spinner Washington Sundar a key bowler.

A pitch with a lot of turn and low bounce could pose a challenge to the visiting batters, Harry Brook in particular. He has a strike-rate of more than 160 against the pacers, but it dips to a shade over 100 against the spinners.

Meanwhile, Ben Stokes batted and bowled in the training session and it will be interesting to see who he replaces.

Ravindra Jadeja, who has scored 39 runs in four visits to the crease, will look for a big one.

Different strokes: While Stokes is ready to return, Conway will be keen to continue the way he did against RCB. R. RAGU

TODAY'S MATCH

CSK vs. SRH
Chennai, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 18
CSK 13 | SRH 5

PREVIOUS MEETING
CSK won by 13 runs, 2022

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIO CINEMA APP

INBRIEF

Clinical Advani demolishes Hall, emerges champion

India's Pankaj Advani registered an emphatic 2044-507 win over Englishman Rob Hall in the final of the Cricket Club of India-organised ₹10 lakh prize-money CCI Classic billiards championship (time format) on Thursday. The Indian started in spectacular fashion with a 657 on his first visit, added a 131 and established a big 841-340 lead at the end of the first session. In the next session, Advani rolled out breaks of 155, 93, 540 and 167 to put the issue beyond Hall. CCI president Madhumati Lele presented Advani with a cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh while CCI vice-president Darius Mehta handed over a cheque of ₹1.5 lakh to Hall. Advani was also awarded ₹50,000 for his break of 657, the highest in the tournament.

The result (final): Pankaj Advani (Ind) 2044 (657, 131, 155, 93, 540, 167) bt Rob Hall (Eng) 507 (152, 108).

Ding lets Nepomniachtchi off the hook in World chess

Ding Liren missed a golden opportunity to catch up with Ian Nepomniachtchi in the World chess championship at Astana on Thursday. The Chinese failed to capitalise on the Russian's unwise exchange of minor pieces on the 22nd move in the eighth game. The game was drawn after 45 moves in a rook-and-pawn ending. With six games remaining, Nepomniachtchi leads 4.5-3.5.

TN men start with a win in Federation Cup volleyball

Tamil Nadu defeated Puducherry 25-21, 23-25, 23-25, 25-15, 15-11 in the inaugural men's match of the 36th Federation Cup volleyball championships in Karaikal on Thursday. In the women's section, Indian Railways defeated Rajasthan 25-14, 21-25, 25-13.

Nadal to miss Madrid Open after recovery setback

Rafael Nadal will miss next week's Madrid Open after a setback in his recovery from a hip injury sustained at the Australian Open in January, the 22-time Major champion said on Thursday. Nadal skipped tournaments at Indian Wells, Miami and Monte Carlo as well.

Schumacher family plans legal action over fake AI quotes

Michael Schumacher's family said on Thursday it was planning legal action against German magazine *Die Aktuelle* for using an artificial intelligence programme to generate fake quotes from the seven-time Formula One champion. The magazine had claimed it had an interview with the motorsport legend – the first since he suffered brain injury in a 2013 skiing accident.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 a.m.

World Chess championships: FIDE & Chess.com YouTube channels, 2.30 p.m. onwards.

Super Cup football: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 7 p.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday).

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 12.15 a.m. (Saturday).

Premier League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday).

LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Manchester City eases past Bayern and into the semis

The Premier League giant books a rematch with Real Madrid in the last four while Inter sets up all-Italian clash with Milan after seeing off Benfica on aggregate

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
MUNICH

Unstoppable: Haaland, right, caps off a length-of-the-field City move for the opening goal. AFP

Manchester City will face Real Madrid in the Champions League semifinals for the second straight year after an Erling Haaland goal secured a 1-1 draw and a 4-1 aggregate last-eight win over Bayern Munich on Wednesday.

The Norwegian missed a first-half penalty but muscled his way upfield midway through the second half, lashing past Bayern goalkeeper Yann Sommer for his 48th goal in 41 appearances this season.

Bayern had a second half goal struck off for offside and scored a late penalty through Joshua Kimmich but was again haunted by its inability to make possession and chances count.

The Milan clubs are set to meet again in another Champions League semifinal, after 2003, after Inter Milan drew 3-3 against Benfica to complete a 5-3 aggregate victory over the Portuguese team.

Faint hope

After Nicolo Barella's opener for Inter, Fredrik Aursnes restored some hope for Benfica shortly before halftime.

But Lautaro Martinez and substitute Joaquin Correa netted in the second half to help Inter reach its first semifinal since Jose Mourinho led it to the treble of the Champions League, Serie A and Italian Cup in 2010.

Inter nevertheless managed to relinquish a two-goal lead as Antonio Silva and Petar Musa netted late on for Benfica.

The results (quarterfinals, second leg): Inter Milan 3 (Barella 14, Martinez 66, Correa 78) drew with Benfica 3 (Aursnes 38, A. Silva 86, Musa 90+5) (*Inter won 5-3 on aggregate*).

Bayern Munich 1 (Kimmich 83-pen) drew with Manchester City 1 (Haaland 57) (*City won 4-1 on aggregate*).

Four-stroke karting series to be held across six cities

MOTORSPORTS

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Akhil Reddy, chairman and managing director of Racing Promotions Private Ltd, said the four-stroke karting series in India starting from April 29 would feature six rounds across different cities.

The series concludes with the finale on June 4 in Hyderabad, the city-based official said.

"Participants aged 15 and above are eligible to compete, and the winner of the finale will receive a scholarship for the FMSCI National Karting Championship, which starts in July 2023.

The scholarship covers training, a new kart, mechanic, and engineer, as well as the entry remains free," Akhil explained.

"The competition, set to start on April 29th and 30th at the ECR Speedway in Chennai, will then move to Meco Kartopia in Bangalore, Speedway Thrissur in Thrissur, Ajmera Indikarting in Mumbai, F11 Karting in Delhi, and Chicane Circuit in Hyderabad," said Akhil.

The grand final will feature 36 drivers from the six cities. The format will include one practice session and one qualifying session and with nine drivers per batch.

Four qualifying heats

There will be four qualifying heats, with the top five drivers from each heat qualifying for the semifinal heats. The top five drivers from each semifinal heat will qualify for the grand finale.

The prize for each city's top three winners includes a trophy and the top six drivers from the overall series will receive a scholarship for the FMSCI National Karting Championship.

"Our commitment to supporting the growth and development of the sport in India is reflected in the scholarship opportunity for the winner of the finale, and we look forward to a thrilling and competitive series across the different cities," Akhil said.

Sathiyan takes on Sharath; Yashaswini meets Reeth

TABLE TENNIS

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

G. Sathiyan and Sharath Kamal set up a much-anticipated title clash after surviving a day of upsets in the 41st Petroleum inter-unit table tennis tournament at the Indira Gandhi Stadium here on Thursday.

In the semifinals, Sathiyan ended the winning streak of ONGC teammate Sourav Saha 4-0 while Indian Oil's Sharath Kamal ended the unexpected run of Oil India's Ankur Bhattacharya 4-1.

Sourav had earlier packed off Sanil Shetty and Manav Thakkar. Ankur made it past Priyanuj Bhattacharya and Sarth Mishra, the paddler who had stunned Harmeet Desai 4-3 in the pre-quarterfinals.

In form

The women's final will be between the in-form Yashaswini Ghopade and Reeth Rishya.

The former, the conqueror of Krittwika Sinha Roy in the quarterfinals, got the better of Divya Despande 4-2 in the semifinals. Divya had knocked out Archana Kamath 4-3 in the quarterfinals.

Reeth ended the dream run of Jennifer Varghese 4-3 after beating K. Shamini. Jennifer scalped Ankita Das and Mouma Das on her way to the semifinals.

The results:

Men (semifinals): G. Sathiyan bt Sourav Saha 11-8, 11-8, 11-6, 11-8; Sharath Kamal bt Ankur Bhattacharjee 6-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-7.

Doubles (final): Sourav Saha & A. Amalraj bt Harmeet Desai & Jubin Kumar 3-0.

Women (semifinals): Yashaswini Ghorpade bt Divya Deshpande 11-4, 11-8, 3-11, 3-11, 11-6, 11-9; Reeth Rishya bt Jennifer Varghese 5-11, 10-12, 11-9, 6-11, 11-8, 11-7, 11-4.

Doubles (final): K. Shamini & Krittwika Sinha Roy bt Archana Kamath & Reeth Rishya 3-0.

Veterans' doubles (final): Men: L.V. Thakre & Deepak Dimri bt Soneshwar & Deka-Anupam Kanwar 3-2.

Indian men's recurve team storms into the final

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

The Indian trio of Atanu Das, B. Dhiraj, and Tarundeep Rai helped the country reach the final of the recurve men's team event at the Archery World Cup Stage-1 in Antalya, Turkey, on Thursday. India will play second-slotted China for the honours on Sunday

India edged past Japan 5-4 (29-28) in a keenly-fought shoot-off before beating Chinese Taipei 6-2 and the Netherlands 6-2 in the quarterfinals and semifinals respectively.

The 11th-placed Indian women's team, consisting of Bhajan Kaur, Simranjeet Kaur and Ankita Bhakat, defeated Brazil 5-4 (24-19) via shoot-off but lost 2-6 to Spain in the next round.

Top-ranked archer V. Jyothi Surekha performed consistently to reach the compound women's individual semifinals.

She got the better of Switzerland's Myriam Hasler 145-137, America's Danelle Lutz 145-141, Mexico's Ana Sofia Hernandez Jeon 145-138 and Denmark's Tanja Gellenthien 147-142 to set up a last-four date with Great Britain's three-time World Cup gold medallist Ella Gibson on Saturday.

Avneet Kaur lost to World champion Sara Lopez 141-141 (10-9) via shoot-off in the third round. Sakshi Chaudhary and Aditi Swami crashed out in the second round.

Three Indian compound male archers, Ojas Deotale, Rajat Chauhan and Prathamesh Jawkar, exited in the quarterfinals.

Deotale, who went past top-seeded Mathias Fullerton 144-144 (10-9) on his way to the last eight, fell to USA's Mohammad Jewaidi Mazuki 148-150.

Jawkar was beaten by former World champion Dutchman Mike Scholesser 147-145, while Rajat was ousted by Slovakia's Jozef Bosansky 144-144 (10-9). Rishabh Yadav lost in the first round.

JFC would strive to keep the momentum going against BFC

Getting ready: Jamshedpur players prep for the last-four clash against Bengaluru. K. RAGESH

SUPER CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOZHIKODE

For Jamshedpur FC, it hasn't exactly been a great season. It finished 10th among the 11 teams at the ISL, but has played some fine football this past fortnight at the Super Cup.

Jamshedpur, in fact, qualified for the semifinals with a game in hand, after posting convincing wins over Goa FC and ATK Mohun Bagan. Then, it defeated Gokulam Kerala, the I-League side that was playing at home, to finish with an all-win record in Group C. It will want to take that form further, as it takes on Bengaluru FC in the first semifinal here on Friday.

The ride to the last four hasn't been as smooth for the men from Bengaluru. They had to split points with Sreenidi Deccan and Kerala Blasters, but the win against RoundGlass Punjab helped them top Group A.

"We got a welcome break in the last couple of days," said Bengaluru's coach Simon Grayson. "It helped us to recharge our batteries a little bit, returning to Bengaluru and getting a few training sessions done as well."

His counterpart Aidy Boothroyd said he was pleased with the team's performance in the group stage. "But that is over now, and means nothing," he said. "We have been attacking a lot, and scoring goals, so the boys are quite enjoying the tournament."

Bopanna & Ebden make the quarters

INDIANS ABROAD

Sports Bureau

Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden defeated fourth seeds Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic 7-6(4), 3-6, [10-8] in the doubles pre-quarterfinals of the $2,872,435 ATP tennis tournament in Barcelona. They will meet Santiago Gonzalez and Edouard Roger-Vasselin in the last eight.

The results:

€630,705 ATP, Munich: Doubles (quarterfinals): Yuki Bhambri & Saketh Myneni bt Dustin Brown (Jam) & Adam Pavlasek (Cze) 5-2 (retired).

€145,000 Challenger, Oeiras, Portugal: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Petr Nouza (Cze) & Igor Zelenay (Svk) bt Charles Broom (GBR) & Purav Raja 6-2, 6-2.

€73,000 Challenger, Roseto Degli Abruzzi, Italy: Pre-quarterfinals: Nicholas David Ionel (Rou) bt Sumit Nagal 7-5, 7-6(6); **Doubles**: Zvonimir Babic & Nino Serdarusic (Cro) w/o Sumit Nagal & Mate Valkusz (Hun).

$25,000 ITF women, Nottingham: Pre-quarterfinals: Adithya Karunaratne (Hkg) bt Rutuja Bhosale 4-6, 6-2, 6-2; **Doubles:** Rutuja Bhosale & Ankita Raina bt Vlada Ekshibarova (Isr) & Ingrid Vojcinakova (Svk) 6-1, 6-3.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Dheeraj stars for GST & Customs

Dheeraj's 27 points powered GST & Customs to a 76-69 victory over Southern Blues in the State A-division basketball championship for men here on Thursday.

The results: Mangalore BC 58 (Rajath 18, Ashwij 13) bt IBBC 52 (Yeshwanth 24); MNK Rao Park BC 70 (Pragnesh 21, Shreyas 11) bt Beagles BC 56 (Achintya 20); GST & Customs 76 (Dheeraj 27, Hrishikesh 21) bt Southern Blues 69 (Gowda 20, Gowtham 14); Bank of Baroda 83 (Arvind 14, Sumedh 13) bt DYES Bangalore 46 (Manoj 24); Young Orions SC 76 (Pratyanshu 19, Oratham 13) bt ASC 54 (Issac 20, Manikanta 10).

On Wednesday: Mangalore BC 86 (Rajath 20, Ashwij 18) bt MNK Rao Park BC 56 (Sanjay 14, Pragnesh 12); Young Orions SC 74 (Pratyanshu 26, Arjun 13) bt DYES Bangalore 57 (Manoj 17); Bank of Baroda 89 (Harish 21, Mufeez Ahmed 20) bt Beagles BC 81 (Achintya 21, Satyajit 19); GST & Customs 99 (Atish 36, Dheeraj 24) bt IBBC 87 (Suresh 23, Yeshwanth 20); Southern Blues 93 (Gowda 44, Gautham 11) bt ASC 92 (Ravi 20, Issac 14).

Aarya's ton highlights Tejal Shiraguppi's win

Aarya Raj top-scored with 112 as Tejal Shiraguppi CA beat Gopalan by a comfortable 186-run margin in the Tiger Cup U-12 cricket tournament here on Thursday.

The scores: Tejal Shiraguppi CA 307/3 in 30 overs (Aarya Raj 112, Samrat Aditya 81) bt Gopalan 121 in 22.5 overs (Padmesh Tripathy 37); Play Smart 294/6 in 30 overs (Sohum Joshi 83, Pavandeep R. Bharadaka 73, Lithik Reddy 31, Sachith Shetty 31, Advaith 4/52) bt PESCA 163/7 in 30 overs (Krishna Kumar 60, Samar Madhe 41, Sohum Joshi 3/19).

Dhanush's five-for helps BMSE get past SIR

Dhanush's five-wicket haul (5/32) was instrumental in BMSE's 19-run win over SIR in the M.S. Ramaiah All India inter-engineering colleges cricket tournament here on Thursday.

The scores: DBIT 169/9 in 30 overs (Ujwal 46, Vivek 33, Srinivas Reddy 27) lost to SJCIT 170/7 in 26 overs (Janardhan 33, Hemanth 47, Kishore 3/35, Sadiq 3/38); BMSE 205 in 28.3 overs (Thejas 85, Rakshith 4/31) bt SIT 186 in 29.4 overs (Pranav 54, Pavan 49, Dhanush 5/32).

Prajwal 'tricks as Bengaluru Blues runs riot

Prajwal scored a hat-trick as Bengaluru Blues HC defeated Naveen HC 8-3 in the Travancore Cup hockey tournament here on Thursday.

The results: Decathlon Hockey 4 (M. Nitin 24, Deshik 30, 39, Nikhil 34) bt Dhyanchand HC, Tumkur 0; Bengaluru Blues HC 8 (Lakshman 2, Rama 3, Prajwal 13, Vijay Uthaoah 30, Cariappa 37, Prajwal 40, 43, 49) bt Naveen HC 3 (Sharath 18, Yogesh 30, Druva 48).

Indian teams for shotgun World Cups

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has announced the same team for the shotgun World Cups to be held in Almaty (Kazakhstan) and Lonato (Italy).

India will also compete in the shotgun World Cup in Cairo from April 25 to May 5. There will only be minor changes from that bunch for the next two World Cups for which the teams were finalised on Thursday.

The idea of giving exposure in the World Cups, which do not carry Olympic quota places in the current cycle, is to help the shooters prepare in right earnest for the World Championship in Baku, scheduled in August, apart from the Asian Championship in Changwon (Korea) in October.

The teams:

Trap: Zoravar Singh Sandhu, Prithviraj Tondaiman, Bhowneesh Mendiratta; Preeti Rajak, Shreyasi Singh, Manisha Keer.

Skeet: Anant Jeet Singh Naruka, Gurjoat Singh Khangura, Mairaj Ahmad Khan; Ganemat Sekhon, Darshna Rathore, Maheshwari Chauhan.

Barcelona needs to beat Atletico to avoid fears of meltdown

Real Madrid in second, and behind the Catalans by 11 points, will be more interested in the Copa Del Rey final and Champions League semis

LALIGA

Associated Press
BARCELONA

Need to fire: Barcelona needs its goal-shy forwards Raphinha and Lewandowski to deliver. REUTERS

Barcelona may be lucky Real Madrid has loftier goals than trying to mount a desperate comeback in the Spanish league.

If not, then Barcelona would face Sunday's game against Atletico Madrid with the added pressure of ending its scoring drought to ensure it doesn't get mired in a late-season slump.

Barcelona still has a healthy lead of 11 points over Madrid with nine games remaining. But the team hasn't scored in three straight games after being beaten by Madrid 4-0 in the Copa del Rey and being held to scoreless draws against modest league opponents in Girona and Getafe.

So a loss to Atletico combined with a win the previous night by Madrid when it hosts Celta Vigo could stir up fears of a meltdown as Barcelona tries to win its first league title since the departure of Lionel Messi two seasons ago.

Madrid, however, has two other titles almost in its grasp. The team will play Osasuna in the Copa del Rey final in Seville on May 6, and three days later it will host Manchester City in the Champions League semifinals. After brushing aside Chelsea this week, Madrid is now only three games away from defending its title and adding to its record 14 European Cups.

That alone should mean Barcelona won't face a serious challenge from its top rival as Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti rests his top players – but just to be sure it better beat Atletico.

The other Madrid team struggled early in the season, quickly falling out of contention for the league title and finishing its Champions League group in last place.

But Atletico has been the hottest team in Spain in 2023. It is unbeaten in 13 matches and takes a six-game winning streak to Barcelona.

Barcelona dealt Atletico its last loss back on Jan. 8 when it won 1-0 in the capital. That was Joao Felix's last game for Atletico before he joined Chelsea on loan in a winter transfer.

Since the Portugal forward left, Antoine Griezmann has been playing like he did in his very best seasons during his first stint at Atletico before he spent 2019-21 at Barcelona, where he never fit in.

The France forward is now leading his team in scoring with 11 league goals and leading the league with eight assists. Griezmann scored twice in the last match to secure at 2-1 win over Almeria.

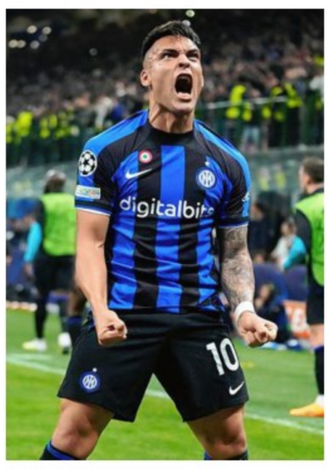
Atletico is in third place, two points behind Madrid. And while overtaking its crosstown rival won't add any titles to its collection, it would be a great finish to the season.

"We are on a good run and we want to keep it up," Atletico midfielder Axel Witsel said Thursday.

Milan powerhouses focus homewards ahead of their European joust

SERIE A

Associated Press
MILAN



Lautaro Martinez. AP

A city that boasts two teams with a combined 10 European Cup titles has both back in the semifinals of this year's Champions League – and set to play each other for a spot in the final.

Inter Milan and AC Milan need to control their excitement, however, and put their focus back on Serie A, where they are each at risk of not qualifying for next season's Champions League.

Milan will host Inter on May 10 before the return leg six days later – with both matches played at their shared San Siro Stadium.

There are four Serie A matches to be played before that first leg, including games against direct rivals for the Champions League qualifying spots – both play Roma and Lazio. Inter also has the second leg of the Italian Cup semifinals against Juventus.

Milan is currently in fourth place – the final Champions League spot – two points above Inter. The Rossoneri are three points below Roma and eight behind second-place Lazio.

However, it could be dumped out of the top four before this weekend's matches if Juventus gets its 15-point penalty suspended on appeal. That would lift the Bianconeri up to third.

Milan hosts Lecce on Sunday, while Inter visits Empoli.

Inter has lost four of its past five matches in Serie A, drawing the other one, and only scored two goals in that run.

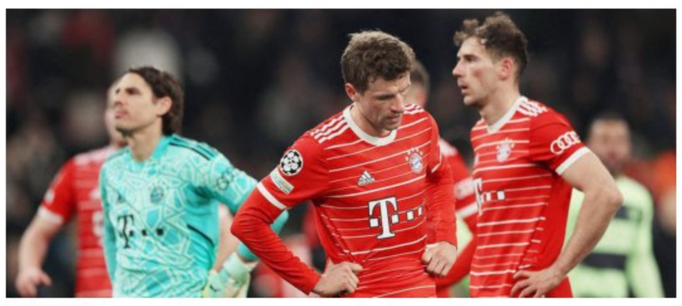
"We have to transfer the enthusiasm from Europe into the league," Inter coach Simone Inzaghi said. "We know where we have come from, what crazy run of matches we're having. We're playing every two and a half days.

"We've dropped important points but we know that we must do better. We know that probably without the Champions League or cup we would have certainly had a better position in the standings, but we have to play like Inter in every match."

Inter got a boost when Lautaro Martinez ended his goal drought on Wednesday. The forward got one goal and set up another against Benfica to snap a run of eight matches without scoring.

Bayern eyes another Bundesliga title as consolation

Associated Press
BERLIN



Dejected: Bayern will have to overcome the bitter pill of exiting in Europe and concentrate on the domestic league. REUTERS

Even if Bayern Munich goes on to win the Bundesliga title, it will be scant consolation for what has been a disappointing season.

After winning the last 10, a record-extending 11th consecutive league title is seen as the minimum target for what remains the biggest and most successful club in Germany.

The Bundesliga is the only remaining target after quarterfinal exits against Manchester City in the Champions League on Wednesday and Freiburg in the German Cup two weeks before that.

And if closest challenger Borussia Dortmund can stop its own self-inflicted setbacks, the league title race could become uncharacteristically exciting over the remaining few weeks.

The Bavarian powerhouse now has 10 points less than it did at the same stage of the league last year.

Dortmund, which is two points behind, is one point worse off than it was last season, yet the "black and yellows" have never had a better chance to capitalise on any Bayern slip ups to end their own 11-year wait for the title.

The big question remains whether Dortmund can push Bayern to the end.

The team coached by Edin Terzić should be level following Bayern's 1-1 draw with Hoffenheim last weekend, but conceded a late equalizer to draw 3-3 against 10-man Stuttgart.

The Bundesliga leader visits Mainz on Saturday, while Dortmund hosts Eintracht Frankfurt in the late game.

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE IV ADDITIONAL FAMILY COURT AT BENGALURU
In
M.C. No. 1017/2022

BETWEEN:
Mrs. K.U. DOTY ...Petitioner
AND:
Mr. K.A. DEVAIAH ...Respondent
NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT

To: Mr. K.A. Devaiah, S/o Late K.C. Aiyappa, Aged about 44 years, R/at: Sri Rama Trust, Seetharama Palya, 11th Cross, Malur, Kolar District-563130.
And also; Raju PG, Garudacharpalya, Near Oxford English School, Mahadevpura, Goshala Road, Bengaluru-560048.

Whereas, the above-named Petitioner has filed the above Petition Under Section 13(1)(i-a) & (i-b) R/W Sec 25 of the Hindu Marriage Act, seeking Divorce against the Respondent and such other relief. You are hereby summoned to appear in person or through a pleader duly instructed before the IV Additional Judge Family Court, Bengaluru.
Take notice that in default of your appearance, On the **26th day of June 2023, at 11.00 A.M.,** the petition will be heard and determined in your absence placing you as ex-parte.
Issued under my hand and seal of this Court on this 12th day of April 2023.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Sheristedar
Family Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Petitioner:
Kaushik. L, Advocate
No. 717, 6th Main, BDA, 2nd Stage, 3rd Phase, Domlur, Bengaluru-560071.

IN THE COURT OF THE 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. NO. 25224/2023

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Sri. Ravipati Rajesh
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Sri. Ravipati Rajesh,
S/o. Sri. Radhakrishna Murti,
Aged about 34 years,
No. 53/54, Venkatadri Nilayam, 4th Floor, CKB Layout, Munnekolalal, Marathalli, Bangalore- 560 037

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 6,05,117/- (Rupees Six Lakh Five Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 73rd Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-74) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **30/05/2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this **12/04/2023.**

By Order of
The Hon'ble Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall Unit,
Bangalore

Advocate for Plaintiff
SA Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross,
Victoria Layout,
Bangalore - 560 047

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-58)
O.S. NO. 25557/2022

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400 051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Sri. Madhuraja G.
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Sri. Madhuraja G.
S/o Sri. Maheshwarappa
Aged about 30 years,
No. 1744, 2nd Floor, 7th Cross, Vijnapura, Dooravaninagar, Near Big Bazar, Bangalore- 560 016

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you of **Rs. 7,99,267/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Seven Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-58) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **29/05/2023** at **11.00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **27/03/2023.**

BY ORDER OF THE
HON'BLE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR,
CITY CIVIL COURT,
MAYOHALL UNIT,
BANGALORE

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I Preeti Arunkumar alias Preeti Biradar alias Preeti G Biradar alias Preeti Goudanna Biradar D/o Goudanna Ramanagouda Biradar, W/o S Arun Kumar, residing at # 596 New Extension, Behind Govt Middle School, Kadugodi Plantation, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560067, have changed my name to Preeti Arunkumar for all purposes in future.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE 13TH ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S. NO. 26946/2022

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Mr. R Brunodarious
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Mr. R Brunodarious,
S/o Mr. Richard Jenifer,
Aged about 35 years,
No.32, Papjah Layout, Horamavu, Behind Devamatha Central School, Bangalore- 560043

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 7,41,910/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 13th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-22) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **30/05/2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this **12/04/2023.**

By Order of
The Hon'ble Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall Unit,
Bangalore

Advocate For Plaintiff
SA Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross,
Victoria Layout,
Bangalore - 560 047

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-58)
O.S. NO. 26776/2022

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff

And
Mr. Saleem Zahirulhaq
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Mr. Saleem Zahirulhaq,
S/o Mr. Zahirulhaq,
Aged about 38 years,
No.12/5, 3rd Cross, Nehru Road, Kuvempu Nagara, Mysore Road,
Bangalore - 560 002

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs.13,20,413/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Thirteen Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-58) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **06.06.2022** at **11.00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this 27/03/2023.

BY ORDER OF THE
HON'BLE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR,
CITY CIVIL COURT,
MAYOHALL UNIT,
BANGALORE

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross,
Victoria Layout,
Bangalore - 560 047

TENDERS

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE
Ida Scudder Road, Vellore-632 004, TN. Ph:0416-228-2440

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR PEST CONTROL SERVICES

Sealed Tender/ Quotation are invited by the General Superintendent, CMC Vellore to provide Pest Control Service to the Hospital, Residential quarters, Hostel and Surrounding Premises, CMC Town campus and all Peripheral campuses (Bagayam, Schell & Shalom, RUHSA, Ranipet, CON- Kagithapattarai, Chittoor & CMC Diagnostic centre) for the term 2023- 2024.

Competency:
"Preferably firms with minimum of five years expertise in Providing Pest control services in Hospitals can apply"

Tender Application:
Tender documents may be collected from the Environment Engineering Department between 10.00 am and 3.00 p.m. against the payment of **Rs.300/-**(non-Refundable). **Last date for sale of Tender Document (forms) is 27/04/2023 (Thursday).**

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, CMC VELLORE

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, LOHITH N.V and Shrunga.T.S parents of minor son Avyukth Gowda, D O B 15-04-2011 R/o # B-302, Aishwarya Lake View, 6th 'F' Cross, Near Kaggadasapura Lake, Bengaluru-560093 have changed his name from Avyukth Gowda to Avyukth L Gowda vide affidavit dt: 20-04-2023 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-63)
O.S. No. 2496/2021

Between:
M/s ICICI Bank Limited,
having its registered office at: Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara-390007 having its head office at and Zonal office at: 4/10, Mytree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068 And also having branch at MG Road, Bengaluru through its Authorised representative Mr. Rohith Ali M. ...Plaintiff
And :
Mr. Rajashaker Reddy
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
Mr. Rajashaker Reddy
S/o Sarva Reddy Vulpala,
Aged about 34 Years,
Residing at No.9, Skanda Krupa Building, AECS Layout, MET Layout, Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore- 560094

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs. 2,72,214/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H-63), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 19-06-2023 at 11:00 A.M to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 13th day of April 2023 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar
Hon'ble City Civil Court,
Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners,
Advocates,
No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road,
Bengaluru -01.

IN THE COMMERCIAL COURT AT BENGALURU (CCH-84)
COMM.O.S.NO.168/2023
Hg: 05/06/2023

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Corporate & Registered office at Land mark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and branch office at Mytree Center, No. 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068 ...Plaintiff
And
Sri. Yogesh N & Another
...Defendants

APPLICATION UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF C.P.C

Summons to Defendant No.1 & 2
D1. Sri. Yogesh N,
S/o Sri. Ninge Gowda,
No. 20, 128, 27, 2nd Main Road, 7th Cross Road, Bovipalya, Mahalakshmipuram, Bangalore- 560 086
D2. Smt. Monika N,
D/o Sri. Doddaiah Nagendra,
No. 20, 128, 27, 2nd Main Road, 7th Cross Road, Bovipalya, Mahalakshmipuram, Bangalore- 560 086

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted a suit against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 11,58,040/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand and Forty Only)** together with interest thereon at the rate 18% p.a., with costs etc. You may take notice that you are hereby directed to appear before this court, in person, or through pleader on **05/06/2023** at **11.00 a.m.,** to answer as to why relief prayer for in the suit should not be granted. If you fail to appear on the above said date, the suit will be proceeded with and decided ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **10/04/2023.**

BY ORDER OF COURT
CITY CIVIL COURT
BENGALURU
Sheristedar
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No.10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

We Venkatesh Ramakrishnan Iyer and Anuradha Anil Sathe R/o E 1, Shakti Castle, 1st A Cross, Kaggadaspura Main Road, Bangalore have changed our minor son's name from Aniruddh Iyer (DOB 19/08/2005) to Aniruddh Venkatesh Iyer for all purposes

I Tejaswini B G alias Tejaswini Bettahalli Gunda D/o B V G Sastry, residing at # 225 4th Main 4th Cross, Near BIPS School, Ramanjaneyanagar, Chikkalasandra, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560061, have changed my name to Tejaswini Sastry for all purposes in future.

I, M SANJANA D/o Sri, M Narayan Raju, aged about 25 Years, residing at No.57, 4th Main Road, Vinayaka Nagar, Baglur Cross Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560063, would like to declare and inform you that Sanjana Muppala & M Sanjana are one and the same person i.e myself only. Both names represent and belong to me only. I therefore request the good Authorities or to whomever it may concern, to kindly consider and accept as both names are representing and belonging to me only, as per the affidavit dated 18.04.2023 Sworn before Notary Leela - Bangalore.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXVI ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-67)
O.S No. 152/2023
Hg: 19/06/2023

Between :
M/s. ICICI Bank Limited,
having its registered office at : Landmark, Race- Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007 having its head office at and branch office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068 through its Authorised representative
Mr. Rohith Ali M. ...Plaintiff
And :
Mr. Isanaka Manoj Kumar
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
1. Mr. Isanaka Manoj Kumar
S/o. Isanaka Raghu Ramaiah, Aged about 35 Years, R/at No. 48, 1st Floor, Suma Nilaya, 3rd Cross, 'T' Ramaiah Garden, Hulimavu, Near NR Galaxy Mart, Bangalore- 560076.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of **Rs. 9,29,629.03/-** along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the LXVI Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H.-67), in person or by a pleader, on the day of **19/06/2023** at **11:00 AM** to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the **17th day** of **April, 2023** at Bangalore.

By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar,
Hon'ble Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners, Advocates,
No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road,
Bengaluru- 01.

IN THE COURT OF THE LXIX ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-70)
ORIGINAL SUIT NO. 8594 OF 2016

BETWEEN:
ICICI Bank Ltd,
A body corporate incorporated And registered under the Indian Companies Act 1956 and licensed As a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act 1949 having Registered Office at: "Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390007
And having its Branch office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 11th Floor, C Wing, Mittal Tower, MG Road, Bangalore - 560 001 and represented by its POA holder and Collection Manager Mr. Noorahmed Tadsad, S/o Babusaheb, Age 33 years, ...PLAINTIFF
AND:
Mr. Pradeep B ...DEFENDANT
Summons to the defendant by way of paper publiction

To,
Defendant:
Sri. Pradeep B
Aged about 35 years,
R/at Narayana Rao Building, Near Mahalakshmi School, Avalahalli, Virgo Nagar, Bangalore- 560049.

Whereas the Plaintiff above named has filed a suit under Order VII Rule 1 of the Civil Procedure Code for recovery of Rs.2,70,643/- (Rupees Two Lakhs seventy Thousand Six Hundred and Forty Three Only) as on 26.09.2016 together with interest at the rate 18% p.a. from date of due to till the date of realization. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court, in person or by a pleader on **07-06-2023 at 11:00 am** to show cause against the suit, and failing wherein the suit will be heard and determined ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on this 10th day of April.2023

By the order of the court
Asst. Registrar,
City Civil Court,

Advocates for Petitioner
S.M. ANEES AHAMED,
B.M. KUSHALAPPA,
Advocates,
No.4(10/2), West Park Road,
Kumara Park East,
Bangalore-560001.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JOSHI artiben balvantraiari , W/o Sharad Kantilal Shukla, R/O. 175, 1st F crs, 3rd stg, 4th blk, basaveshwaranagar, Blr–79, have changed my name as Arti Sharad Shukla, vide affidavit dated 11/01/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-58)
O.S.NO.26881/2022

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400 051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Sri. Pradeep PV
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Sri. Pradeep PV.
S/o Sri. Babu TT, Aged about 35 years, No. 42, 4th Floor, 3rd Cross, Doddabanaswadi, Bangalore- 560 043

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 4,02,310/- (Rupees Four Lakh Two Thousand Three Hundred Ten Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge **(CCH-58)** in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **25/05/2023** at 11.00 a.m. failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **27/03/2023.**

BY ORDER OF THE HON'VLE COURT DEPUTY REGISTRAR, CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT, BANGALORE

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No.10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-58)
O.S. No. 26445/2021

Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400 051 and its branch office at Mytree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068
Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Syed Nabi Pasha
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Mr. Syed Nabi Pasha, S/o. Mr. Syed Mustafa, Aged about 38 years, Flat No.104, Chalamaize Apartment, Sunshine Layout, Bhattarahalli, Bangalore- 560 049

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 7,64,165/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Sixty Four Thousand One Hundred Sixty Five Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge **(CCH-58)** in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **25/05/2023** at **11.00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Give under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **27/03/2023.**

BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT DEPUTY REGISTRAR, CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT, BANGALORE

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

TENDERS

Expression of Interest (EOI)

DBT / Wellcome Trust IndiaAlliance

India Alliance a public charity co-funded by Department of Biotechnology, Govt of India and the Wellcome Trust of the UK seeks an **Expression of Interest (EOI) to Design, Develop, Host and Maintain their Website.**
Organisations expressing their interest should share a detailed proposal (pdf) to **jobs@indiaalliance.org by May 5, 2023.**
"The EOI document with technical stack and guidelines can be downloaded from India alliance website **(https://www.indiaalliance.org/career).** "Shortlisted organisations will be called for making a presentation within two weeks after the deadline.

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